AN ACT
relating to the offense of making or causing a false alarm or report
involving a public or private institution of higher education.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 51, Education Code, is
amended by adding Section 51.219 to read as follows:

Sec. 51.219. NOTIFICATION OF PENALTY FOR FALSE ALARM OR
REPORT. (a) In this section, "institution of higher education" and
"private or independent institution of higher education" have the
meanings assigned by Section 61.003.

(b) Each institution of higher education and private or
independent institution of higher education shall notify all
incoming students, as soon as practicable, of the penalty for the
offense under Section 42.06, Penal Code, of making a false alarm or
report involving a public or private institution of higher
education.

(c) Notwithstanding Subsection (b), a private or
independent institution of higher education is not required to
comply with Subsection (b) if the institution determines that
providing notice as required by that subsection is not feasible.
This subsection expires August 1, 2014.

(d) Not later than October 1, 2013, each institution of
higher education shall notify all enrolled students of the penalty
for the offense under Section 42.06, Penal Code, of making a false
alarm or report involving a public or private institution of higher education. This subsection expires December 31, 2013.

SECTION 2. Section 42.06(b), Penal Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) An offense under this section is a Class A misdemeanor unless the false report is of an emergency involving a public or private institution of higher education or involving a public primary or secondary school, public communications, public transportation, public water, gas, or power supply or other public service, in which event the offense is a state jail felony.

SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies only to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act. An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred before that date.

SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2013.
H.B. No. 1284

President of the Senate        Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1284 was passed by the House on April 24, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 142, Nays 1, 1 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1284 was passed by the Senate on May 22, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: ____________________

Date

______________________________
Governor