By:  Bell of Kaufman, Lang, King of Parker, H.B. No. 1625

     Murr

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of the criminal offense of false report of criminal conduct committed by emergency responder.

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

SECTION 1.  Chapter 37, Penal Code, is amended by adding Section 37.082 to read as follows:

Sec. 37.082.  FALSE REPORT OF CRIMINAL CONDUCT COMMITTED BY EMERGENCY RESPONDER. (a) In this section, "emergency services personnel" has the meaning assigned by Section 22.01.

(b)  A person commits an offense if, with the intent to deceive, the person:

(1)  knowingly makes a false report that a peace officer or emergency services personnel, while performing official duties, engaged in conduct that violates a penal law of this state; and

(2)  makes the report to any law enforcement agency for the purpose of initiating a criminal investigation against the officer or personnel.

(c)  An offense under this section is a Class A misdemeanor.

(d)  If conduct that constitutes an offense under this section also constitutes an offense under another law, the actor may be prosecuted under this section or the other law.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.