

Representative Doug Owens proposes the following substitute bill:

BIAS INCIDENT REPORTING

2024 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Doug Owens

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill creates the bias incident hotline program.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ directs the Department of Public Safety to create the bias incident hotline program;
- ▶ directs the Management Information Services Division to operate the bias incident hotline program; and
- ▶ makes technical and conforming changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

53-1-304, as enacted by Laws of Utah 1993, Chapter 234

ENACTS:

53-1-305, Utah Code Annotated 1953



26 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

27 Section 1. Section **53-1-304** is amended to read:

28 **53-1-304. Division duties.**

29 The division shall:

30 (1) provide technical support for the department's various computer systems, including
31 computer software, hardware, and networking support;

32 (2) provide access to the National Crime Information Center, National Law
33 Enforcement Telecommunication System, which provides electronic mail messaging
34 capabilities to law enforcement agencies throughout the nation, and to National Commercial
35 Driver License Information;

36 (3) create information systems for public safety information;

37 (4) provide programming support as required by the department;

38 (5) design systems and programs to maximize the efficiency of the department;

39 (6) provide law enforcement officers and criminal justice agencies access to public
40 safety information that will assist in protecting the public;

41 (7) operate the hate and bias incident hotline program described in Section [53-1-305](#);

42 and

43 [~~(7)~~] (8) other duties as assigned by the commissioner.

44 Section 2. Section **53-1-305** is enacted to read:

45 **53-1-305. Hate and bias incident hotline program.**

46 (1) As used in this section:

47 (a) "Hate or bias incident" means a hostile expression of animus by an individual
48 toward another individual that is motivated by hatred or a bias against a race, a religion, an
49 ethnic or national origin group, a sexual orientation group, or a disability.

50 (b) "National Incident-Based Reporting System" means the system operated by the
51 Bureau of Justice established in 34 U.S.C. Sec. 10132.

52 (c) "Utah 211" means the designated 211 service provider created in Section
53 [62A-17-104](#).

54 (2) The department shall:

55 (a) coordinate with Utah 211 to establish a hotline for the reporting of a hate or bias
56 incident;

57 (b) create an online form for the reporting of a bias incident that:
58 (i) follows the format used by the National Incident-Based Reporting System; and
59 (ii) refers an individual who completes the form to Utah 211; and
60 (c) collect and publicly report on the department's website anonymized data collected
61 under this section.

62 (3) If the department receives a call regarding the hate or bias incident and determines
63 that the incident actually rises to the level of a crime the department shall contact the law
64 enforcement agency in the jurisdiction from where the call has been received and refer the
65 incident for criminal investigation.

66 Section 3. **Effective date.**

67 This bill takes effect on May 1, 2024.