

43d Assem.

HOUSE—No. 450.

Feb. 1903

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- 1 Introduced by Mr. S. E. Erickson, Feb. 26, 1903.
  - 2 Ordered printed and referred to Committee on Judiciary.

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### A BILL

For "An act to make the name of an informant giving facts in regard to crime to any editor, publisher, reporter or correspondent of a newspaper printed or published in this State a privileged communication before a grand jury or a court of inquiry investigating such crime; and making it an offense for any person to give false information to any editor, reporter, publisher or correspondent of any newspaper with respect to the commission of a crime, and prescribing the punishment therefor.

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- SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois represented*
- 2 *in the General Assembly:* That whenever any person shall inform any editor,
  - 3 or publisher of any newspaper printed or published in this State, or any re-
  - 4 porter or correspondent connected therewith, of any crime theretofore committed
  - 5 in this State or of any fact or facts concerning such crime, which information is
  - 6 by such person communicated to such editor, publisher, reporter or correspon-
  - 7 dent as a matter of news and for publication in such newspaper, such editor,

8 publisher, reporter or correspondent shall not be compelled against his will  
 9 to divulge before or to any grand jury or court of inquiry investigating such  
 10 crime the name of such person giving such information, and the same shall  
 11 be in such case a privileged communication.

Section 2. Any person who shall give to any editor, publisher, reporter  
 2 or correspondent of a public newspaper false information concerning the  
 3 commission of a crime and who shall assume such information to be true,  
 4 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined  
 5 in any sum not less than ten dollars nor more than five hundred dollars.

Section 3. All laws and parts of laws in conflict herewith are hereby  
 2 repealed.