

DON'T TOUCH THAT BUTTON—

People Who Turn in False Alarms to Get Stiff Punishment

JUNEAU—Persons, who turn in false alarms will be punished with fines up to \$1,000 and imprisonment for one year as a result of legislation signed Thursday by Gov. Walter J. Hickel.

"A few years ago in San Francisco, several people died as the result of a traffic accident that occurred when a fire truck, racing to answer an alarm pulled by pranksters, collided with a passenger car," Hickel said. "A similar tragic accident could occur in any of Alaska's

cities any time someone turns in a false alarm."

The Governor said firemen estimate that the cost of responding to false alarms, amounts to thousands of dollars each year in Alaska. He added, "As a result of this new legislation, a person convicted of turning in a false alarm is liable for all costs incurred."

House Bill 397, amended by the Senate, becomes Chapter 173.