

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY State of Illinois 2019 and 2020 HB1614

by Rep. Justin Slaughter

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

720 ILCS 5/16-1 720 ILCS 5/16-25 from Ch. 38, par. 16-1

Amends the Criminal Code of 2012. Increases the threshold amount of theft not from the person and retail theft that enhances the offense from a misdemeanor to a felony to \$2,000. Provides that an enhancement from a misdemeanor to a felony based on a prior conviction must only be for felony theft.

LRB101 08283 SLF 53350 b

1 AN ACT concerning criminal law.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

- Section 5. The Criminal Code of 2012 is amended by changing

 Sections 16-1 and 16-25 as follows:
- 6 (720 ILCS 5/16-1) (from Ch. 38, par. 16-1)
- 7 Sec. 16-1. Theft.

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- 8 (a) A person commits theft when he or she knowingly:
- 9 (1) Obtains or exerts unauthorized control over 10 property of the owner; or
 - (2) Obtains by deception control over property of the owner; or
 - (3) Obtains by threat control over property of the owner; or
 - (4) Obtains control over stolen property knowing the property to have been stolen or under such circumstances as would reasonably induce him or her to believe that the property was stolen; or
 - (5) Obtains or exerts control over property in the custody of any law enforcement agency which any law enforcement officer or any individual acting in behalf of a law enforcement agency explicitly represents to the person as being stolen or represents to the person such

| _ | circumstances | as | would | reasonably | induce | the | person | to |
|---|----------------|------|----------|--------------|--------|-----|--------|----|
| 2 | believe that t | he r | property | y was stolen | , and | | | |

- (A) Intends to deprive the owner permanently of the use or benefit of the property; or
- (B) Knowingly uses, conceals or abandons the property in such manner as to deprive the owner permanently of such use or benefit; or
- (C) Uses, conceals, or abandons the property knowing such use, concealment or abandonment probably will deprive the owner permanently of such use or benefit.
- (b) Sentence.
- (1) Theft of property not from the person and not exceeding \$2,000 \$500 in value is a Class A misdemeanor.
- (1.1) Theft of property not from the person and not exceeding \$2,000\$ \$500 in value is a Class 4 felony if the theft was committed in a school or place of worship or if the theft was of governmental property.
- (2) A person who has been convicted of theft of property not from the person and not exceeding \$2,000 \$500 in value who has been previously convicted of felony any type of theft, robbery, armed robbery, burglary, residential burglary, possession of burglary tools, home invasion, forgery, a violation of Section 4-103, 4-103.1, 4-103.2, or 4-103.3 of the Illinois Vehicle Code relating to the possession of a stolen or converted motor vehicle,

| or a violation of Section 17-36 of the Criminal Code of |
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| 1961 or the Criminal Code of 2012, or Section 8 of the |
| Illinois Credit Card and Debit Card Act is guilty of a |
| Class 4 felony. |

- (3) (Blank).
- (4) Theft of property from the person not exceeding \$500 in value, or theft of property exceeding \$2,000 \$500 and not exceeding \$10,000 in value, is a Class 3 felony.
- (4.1) Theft of property from the person not exceeding \$500 in value, or theft of property exceeding \$2,000 \$500 and not exceeding \$10,000 in value, is a Class 2 felony if the theft was committed in a school or place of worship or if the theft was of governmental property.
- (5) Theft of property exceeding \$10,000 and not exceeding \$100,000 in value is a Class 2 felony.
- (5.1) Theft of property exceeding \$10,000 and not exceeding \$100,000 in value is a Class 1 felony if the theft was committed in a school or place of worship or if the theft was of governmental property.
- (6) Theft of property exceeding \$100,000 and not exceeding \$500,000 in value is a Class 1 felony.
- (6.1) Theft of property exceeding \$100,000 in value is a Class X felony if the theft was committed in a school or place of worship or if the theft was of governmental property.
 - (6.2) Theft of property exceeding \$500,000 and not

- 1 exceeding \$1,000,000 in value is a Class 1
 2 non-probationable felony.
 - (6.3) Theft of property exceeding \$1,000,000 in value is a Class X felony.
 - (7) Theft by deception, as described by paragraph (2) of subsection (a) of this Section, in which the offender obtained money or property valued at \$5,000 or more from a victim 60 years of age or older is a Class 2 felony.
 - (8) Theft by deception, as described by paragraph (2) of subsection (a) of this Section, in which the offender falsely poses as a landlord or agent or employee of the landlord and obtains a rent payment or a security deposit from a tenant is a Class 3 felony if the rent payment or security deposit obtained does not exceed \$500.
 - (9) Theft by deception, as described by paragraph (2) of subsection (a) of this Section, in which the offender falsely poses as a landlord or agent or employee of the landlord and obtains a rent payment or a security deposit from a tenant is a Class 2 felony if the rent payment or security deposit obtained exceeds \$500 and does not exceed \$10,000.
 - (10) Theft by deception, as described by paragraph (2) of subsection (a) of this Section, in which the offender falsely poses as a landlord or agent or employee of the landlord and obtains a rent payment or a security deposit from a tenant is a Class 1 felony if the rent payment or

security deposit obtained exceeds \$10,000 and does not exceed \$100,000.

- (11) Theft by deception, as described by paragraph (2) of subsection (a) of this Section, in which the offender falsely poses as a landlord or agent or employee of the landlord and obtains a rent payment or a security deposit from a tenant is a Class X felony if the rent payment or security deposit obtained exceeds \$100,000.
- (c) When a charge of theft of property exceeding a specified value is brought, the value of the property involved is an element of the offense to be resolved by the trier of fact as either exceeding or not exceeding the specified value.
- (d) Theft by lessee; permissive inference. The trier of fact may infer evidence that a person intends to deprive the owner permanently of the use or benefit of the property (1) if a lessee of the personal property of another fails to return it to the owner within 10 days after written demand from the owner for its return or (2) if a lessee of the personal property of another fails to return it to the owner within 24 hours after written demand from the owner for its return and the lessee had presented identification to the owner that contained a materially fictitious name, address, or telephone number. A notice in writing, given after the expiration of the leasing agreement, addressed and mailed, by registered mail, to the lessee at the address given by him and shown on the leasing agreement shall constitute proper demand.

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- (e) Permissive inference; evidence of intent that a person obtains by deception control over property. The trier of fact may infer that a person "knowingly obtains by deception control over property of the owner" when he or she fails to return, within 45 days after written demand from the owner, the downpayment and any additional payments accepted under a promise, oral or in writing, to perform services for the owner for consideration of \$3,000 or more, and the promisor knowingly without good cause failed to substantially perform pursuant to the agreement after taking a down payment of 10% or more of the agreed upon consideration. This provision shall not apply where the owner initiated the suspension of performance under the agreement, or where the promisor responds to the notice within the 45-day notice period. A notice in writing, addressed and mailed, by registered mail, to the promisor at the last known address of the promisor, shall constitute proper demand.
 - (f) Offender's interest in the property.
 - (1) It is no defense to a charge of theft of property that the offender has an interest therein, when the owner also has an interest to which the offender is not entitled.
 - (2) Where the property involved is that of the offender's spouse, no prosecution for theft may be maintained unless the parties were not living together as man and wife and were living in separate abodes at the time of the alleged theft.
- 26 (Source: P.A. 96-496, eff. 1-1-10; 96-534, eff. 8-14-09;

- 1 96-1000, eff. 7-2-10; 96-1301, eff. 1-1-11; 96-1532, eff.
- 2 1-1-12; 96-1551, eff. 7-1-11; 97-597, eff. 1-1-12; 97-1150,
- 3 eff. 1-25-13.)

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- 4 (720 ILCS 5/16-25)
- 5 Sec. 16-25. Retail theft.
- 6 (a) A person commits retail theft when he or she knowingly:
 - (1) Takes possession of, carries away, transfers or causes to be carried away or transferred any merchandise displayed, held, stored or offered for sale in a retail mercantile establishment with the intention of retaining such merchandise or with the intention of depriving the merchant permanently of the possession, use or benefit of such merchandise without paying the full retail value of such merchandise; or
 - (2) Alters, transfers, or removes any label, price tag, marking, indicia of value or any other markings which aid in determining value affixed to any merchandise displayed, held, stored or offered for sale in a retail mercantile establishment and attempts to purchase such merchandise at less than the full retail value with the intention of depriving the merchant of the full retail value of such merchandise; or
 - (3) Transfers any merchandise displayed, held, stored or offered for sale in a retail mercantile establishment from the container in or on which such merchandise is

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- displayed to any other container with the intention of depriving the merchant of the full retail value of such merchandise; or
 - (4) Under-rings with the intention of depriving the merchant of the full retail value of the merchandise; or
 - (5) Removes a shopping cart from the premises of a retail mercantile establishment without the consent of the merchant given at the time of such removal with the intention of depriving the merchant permanently of the possession, use or benefit of such cart; or
 - (6) Represents to a merchant that he, she, or another is the lawful owner of property, knowing that such representation is false, and conveys or attempts to convey that property to a merchant who is the owner of the property in exchange for money, merchandise credit or other property of the merchant; or
 - (7) Uses or possesses any theft detection shielding device or theft detection device remover with the intention of using such device to deprive the merchant permanently of the possession, use or benefit of any merchandise displayed, held, stored or offered for sale in a retail mercantile establishment without paying the full retail value of such merchandise; or
 - (8) Obtains or exerts unauthorized control over property of the owner and thereby intends to deprive the owner permanently of the use or benefit of the property

when a lessee of the personal property of another fails to return it to the owner, or if the lessee fails to pay the full retail value of such property to the lessor in satisfaction of any contractual provision requiring such, within 10 days after written demand from the owner for its return. A notice in writing, given after the expiration of the leasing agreement, by registered mail, to the lessee at the address given by the lessee and shown on the leasing agreement shall constitute proper demand.

- (b) Theft by emergency exit. A person commits theft by emergency exit when he or she commits a retail theft as defined in subdivisions (a) (1) through (a) (8) of this Section and to facilitate the theft he or she leaves the retail mercantile establishment by use of a designated emergency exit.
 - (c) Permissive inference. If any person:
 - (1) conceals upon his or her person or among his or her belongings unpurchased merchandise displayed, held, stored or offered for sale in a retail mercantile establishment; and
 - (2) removes that merchandise beyond the last known station for receiving payments for that merchandise in that retail mercantile establishment,

then the trier of fact may infer that the person possessed, carried away or transferred such merchandise with the intention of retaining it or with the intention of depriving the merchant permanently of the possession, use or benefit of such

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merchandise without paying the full retail value of such 1 2 merchandise.

To "conceal" merchandise means that, although there may be some notice of its presence, that merchandise is not visible through ordinary observation.

- (d) Venue. Multiple thefts committed by the same person as part of a continuing course of conduct in different jurisdictions that have been aggregated in one jurisdiction may be prosecuted in any jurisdiction in which one or more of the thefts occurred.
- (e) For the purposes of this Section, "theft detection shielding device" means any laminated or coated bag or device designed and intended to shield merchandise from detection by an electronic or magnetic theft alarm sensor.

(f) Sentence.

- (1) A violation of any of subdivisions (a) (1) through (a) (6) and (a) (8) of this Section, the full retail value of which does not exceed \$2,000 for property other than motor fuel or \$150 for motor fuel, is a Class A misdemeanor. A violation of subdivision (a)(7) of this Section is a Class A misdemeanor for a first offense and a Class 4 felony for a second or subsequent offense. Theft by emergency exit of property, the full retail value of which does not exceed \$2,000 \$300, is a Class 4 felony.
- (2) A person who has been convicted of retail theft of property under any of subdivisions (a) (1) through (a) (6)

and (a) (8) of this Section, the full retail value of which does not exceed \$2,000 \$300 for property other than motor fuel or \$150 for motor fuel, and who has been previously convicted of any type of theft, robbery, armed robbery, burglary, residential burglary, possession of burglary tools, home invasion, unlawful use of a credit card, or forgery is guilty of a Class 4 felony. A person who has been convicted of theft by emergency exit of property, the full retail value of which does not exceed \$2,000 \$300, and who has been previously convicted of felony any type of theft, robbery, armed robbery, burglary, residential burglary, possession of burglary tools, home invasion, unlawful use of a credit card, or forgery is guilty of a Class 3 felony.

(3) Any retail theft of property under any of subdivisions (a) (1) through (a) (6) and (a) (8) of this Section, the full retail value of which exceeds $\frac{$2,000}{$300}$ for property other than motor fuel or \$150 for motor fuel in a single transaction, or in separate transactions committed by the same person as part of a continuing course of conduct from one or more mercantile establishments over a period of one year, is a Class 3 felony. Theft by emergency exit of property, the full retail value of which exceeds $\frac{$2,000}{$300}$ in a single transaction, or in separate transactions committed by the same person as part of a continuing course of conduct from one or more mercantile

establishments over a period of one year, is a Class 2 felony. When a charge of retail theft of property or theft by emergency exit of property, the full value of which exceeds \$2,000 \$300, is brought, the value of the property involved is an element of the offense to be resolved by the trier of fact as either exceeding or not exceeding \$2,000 \$300.

(Source: P.A. 97-597, eff. 1-1-12.)