

AN ACT concerning vehicles.

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

Section 5. The Illinois Vehicle Code is amended by
changing Section 12-612 as follows:

(625 ILCS 5/12-612)

Sec. 12-612. False or secret compartment in a motor
vehicle.

(a) Offenses. It is unlawful for any person to own or
operate any motor vehicle he or she knows to contain a false
or secret compartment. It is unlawful for any person to
knowingly install, create, build, or fabricate in any motor
vehicle a false or secret compartment.

(b) Definitions. For purposes of this Section, a "false
or secret compartment" means any enclosure that is intended
and designed to be used to conceal, hide, and prevent
discovery by law enforcement officers of the false or secret
compartment, or its contents, and which is integrated into a
vehicle. For purpose of this Section, a person's intention
to use a false or secret compartment to conceal the contents
of the compartment from a law enforcement officer may be
inferred from factors including, but not limited to, the
discovery of a person, firearm, controlled substance, or
other contraband within the false or secret compartment, or
from the discovery of evidence of the previous placement of a
person, firearm, controlled substance, or other contraband
within the false or secret compartment.

(c) Forfeiture. Any motor vehicle containing a false or
secret compartment, as well as any items within that
compartment, shall be subject to seizure by the Department of
State Police or by any municipal or other local law

enforcement agency within whose jurisdiction that property is found as provided in Sections 36-1 and 36-2 of the Criminal Code of 1961 (720 ILCS 5/36-1 and 5/36-2). The removal of the false or secret compartment from the motor vehicle, or the promise to do so, shall not be the basis for a defense to forfeiture of the motor vehicle under Section 36-2 of the Criminal Code of 1961 and shall not be the basis for the court to release the vehicle to the owner.

(d) Sentence. A violation of this Section is a Class 4 felony C-misdemeanor.

(Source: P.A. 91-359, eff. 1-1-00.)