

**SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-FOURTH SESSION**

S.F. No. 5039

(SENATE AUTHORS: LUCERO, Limmer and Kreun)

DATE
04/09/2026

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Introduction and first reading
Referred to Judiciary and Public Safety

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to public safety; increasing the penalty for tampering with a motor vehicle;
1.3 establishing a crime for riding in a vehicle when the person reasonably should
1.4 have known that a vehicle was taken without permission; amending Minnesota
1.5 Statutes 2024, section 609.546.

1.6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 609.546, is amended to read:

1.8 **609.546 MOTOR VEHICLE TAMPERING.**

1.9 A person is guilty of a gross misdemeanor who intentionally:

1.10 (1) rides in or on a motor vehicle ~~knowing~~ when the person knows or reasonably should
1.11 know that the vehicle was taken and is being driven by another without the owner's
1.12 permission; or

1.13 (2) tampers with or enters into or on a motor vehicle without the owner's permission.

1.14 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2025, and applies to crimes
1.15 committed on or after that date.