

CHAPTER 796—H.F.No.1315

An act relating to crimes and criminals; acts by lessee constituting theft; amending Minnesota Statutes 1969, Section 609.52, Subdivision 2.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1969, Section 609.52, Subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **CRIMES AND CRIMINALS; THEFT; ACTS BY LESSEE.** Whoever does any of the following commits theft and may be sentenced as provided in subdivision 3:

(1) Intentionally and without claim or right takes, uses, transfers, conceals or retains possession of movable property of another without his consent and with intent to deprive the owner permanently of possession of the property; or

(2) Having a legal interest in movable property, intentionally and without consent, takes such property out of the possession of a pledgee or other person having a superior right of possession, with intent thereby to deprive the pledgee or other person permanently of the possession of the property; or

(3) Obtains for himself or another the possession, custody or title to property of a third person by intentionally deceiving him with a false representation which is known to be false, made with intent to defraud, and which does defraud the person to whom it is made. "False representation" includes without limitation:

(a) The issuance of a check, draft, or order for the payment of money or the delivery of property knowing that he is not entitled to draw upon the drawee therefor or to order the payment or delivery thereof; or

(b) A promise made with intent not to perform. Failure to perform is not evidence of intent not to perform unless corroborated by other substantial evidence; or

(c) The unauthorized use of a credit card, credit plate, charge plate, or other identification device issued by an organization to a person for use in purchasing goods on credit; or

(4) By swindling, whether by artifice, trick, device, or any other means, obtains property from another person; or

(5) Intentionally commits any of the acts listed in this subdivision but with intent to exercise temporary control only and;

Changes or additions indicated by underline, deletions by ~~strikeout~~.

(a) The control exercised manifests an indifference to the rights of the owner or the restoration of the property to him; or

(b) He pledges or otherwise attempts to subject the property to an adverse claim; or

(c) He intends to restore the property only on condition that the owner pay a reward or buy back or make other compensation; or

(6) Finds lost property and, knowing or having reasonable means of ascertaining the true owner, appropriates it to his own use or to that of another not entitled thereto without first having made reasonable effort to find the owner and offer and surrender the property to him; or

(7) Intentionally obtains property or services, offered upon the deposit of a sum of money or tokens in a coin or token operated machine or other receptacle, without making the required deposit or otherwise obtaining the consent of the owner; or

(8) Intentionally and without claim of right converts any article representing a trade secret, knowing it to be such, to his own use or that of another person or makes a copy of an article representing a trade secret, knowing it to be such, and intentionally and without claim of right converts the same to his own use or that of another person. It shall be a complete defense to any prosecution under this clause for the defendant to show that information comprising the trade secret was rightfully known or available to him from a source other than the owner of the trade secret- ; or

(9) Leases or rents personal property under a written instrument and who with intent to place such property beyond the control of the lessor conceals or aids or abets the concealment of such property or any part thereof, or any lessee of such property who sells, conveys or encumbers such property or any part thereof without the written consent of the lessor, without informing the person to whom he sells, conveys, or encumbers that the same is subject to such lease and with intent to deprive the lessor of possession thereof. Evidence that a lessee used a false or fictitious name or address in obtaining such property or fails or refuses to return such property to lessor within five days after written demand for such return has been served personally in the manner provided for service of process of a civil action or sent by registered or certified mail to the last known address of the lessee, whichever shall occur later, shall be evidence of intent to violate this clause. Service by certified or registered mail shall be deemed to be complete upon deposit in the United States mail of such demand, postpaid and addressed to such person at the address for such person set forth in the lease or rental agreement, or, in the absence of such address, to such person's last known place of residence.

Approved June 4, 1971.

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