



**H.B. 687**

126th General Assembly  
(As Introduced)

**Rep. DeGeeter**

---

**BILL SUMMARY**

- Increases the penalty for theft of a vehicle validation sticker to a felony of the fifth degree.

---

**CONTENT AND OPERATION**

**Theft of a vehicle validation sticker**

**Current law**

Under current law, a person commits theft if a person, with purpose to deprive the owner of property or services, knowingly obtains or exerts control over either the property or services in any of the following ways (R.C. 2913.02(A)):

- (1) Without the consent of the owner or person authorized to give consent;
- (2) Beyond the scope of the express or implied consent of the owner or person authorized to give consent;
- (3) By deception;
- (4) By threat;
- (5) By intimidation.

A violation of this prohibition ranges from a misdemeanor of the first degree to a felony of the first degree. That penalty and the name of the offense depend on the value of the property stolen, the type of property stolen, and whether the victim was an elderly or disabled adult as follows: petty theft (less than \$500--a misdemeanor of the first degree), theft (\$500 or more but less than \$5,000 or property listed in R.C. 2913.71--a felony of the fifth degree), grand theft (\$5,000 or more but less than \$100,000--a felony of the fourth degree; firearm or

dangerous ordnance--a felony of the third degree), aggravated theft (\$100,000 or more but less than \$1 million--a felony of the third or second degree), aggravated theft of \$1 million or more (a felony of the first degree), theft from an elderly person or disabled adult (ranges from a felony of the fifth degree to a felony of the first degree), grand theft of a motor vehicle (a felony of the fourth degree), theft of drugs (a felony of the fourth or third degree), theft of a police dog or horse or assistance dog (a felony of the third degree), or theft of anhydrous ammonia (a felony of the third degree) (R.C. 2913.02(B), not in the bill).

In addition, regardless of the value of the property involved, theft of one of the following is a felony of the fifth degree (R.C. 2913.71):

- (1) A credit card;
- (2) A printed form for a check or other negotiable instrument that meets certain criteria;
- (3) A motor vehicle identification license plate, temporary license placard or windshield sticker, or any comparable license plate, placard, or sticker;
- (4) A blank form for a certificate of title or a manufacturer's or importer's certificate to a motor vehicle;
- (5) A blank form for any license listed in R.C. 4507.01 (various driver's licenses).

**The bill**

The bill provides that the penalty for theft of a vehicle validation sticker, as prescribed by section 4503.19 or 4503.191 of the Revised Code, is a felony of the fifth degree. Thus, under the bill theft of a vehicle validation sticker has the same penalty as theft of a license plate, temporary license placard, or windshield sticker. (R.C. 2913.71.)

---

**HISTORY**

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	11-21-06

H0687-I-126.doc/jc