

**DRAFT ONLY
NOT APPROVED FOR
INTRODUCTION**

HOUSE BILL NO.

Theft amendments.

Sponsored by: Joint Judiciary Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to crimes and offenses; amending the
2 penalties for theft and related offenses as specified;
3 amending the monetary threshold for felony theft; amending
4 the number of theft offenses needed for a felony theft
5 offense; and providing for an effective date.

6

7 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

8

9 **Section 1.** W.S. 6-3-402(c)(i), (iii) and (j) and
10 6-3-411(e) are amended to read:

11

12 **6-3-402. Theft; penalties.**

13

1 (c) Except as provided in subsections (g) and (j) of
2 this section, theft is:

3
4 (i) A felony punishable by imprisonment for not
5 more than ten (10) years, a fine of not more than ten
6 thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), or both, if the value of the
7 property is ~~one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00)~~ five hundred
8 dollars (\$500.00) or more or if the property is a firearm,
9 horse, mule, sheep, cattle, buffalo or swine regardless of
10 value; or

11
12 (iii) A misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment
13 for not more than ~~six (6) months~~ one (1) year, a fine of
14 not more than ~~seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00)~~ one
15 thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00), or both, if the
16 value of the property is less than ~~one thousand dollars~~
17 ~~(\$1,000.00)~~ five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

18
19 (j) Any person convicted of a ~~fifth~~ third or
20 subsequent offense for theft, shoplifting, larceny,
21 wrongful taking of property, wrongful disposal of property
22 or livestock rustling, any other theft offense under this
23 section, any theft offense under a municipal ordinance or

1 any theft offense pursuant to a substantially similar law
2 of another jurisdiction separately brought and tried shall
3 be guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not
4 more than ten (10) years, a fine of not more than ten
5 thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), or both.

6
7 **6-3-411. Unlawful use of theft detection shielding**
8 **devices; penalty.**

9
10 (e) A person who commits any of the offenses
11 specified under subsections (a) through (d) of this section
12 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment
13 for not more than ~~six (6) months~~ one (1) year, a fine of
14 not more than ~~seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00)~~ one
15 thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00), or both.

16
17 *****
18 *****
19 **STAFF COMMENT**
20
21 **The four offenses specified in W.S. 6-3-411(e) (subsections**
22 **(a) through (d) of that section) are provided for reference**
23 **below:**

24
25 (a) A person commits unlawful use of a theft
26 detection shielding device when he knowingly manufacturers,
27 sells, offers for sale or distributes any laminated or
28 coated bag or device peculiar to shielding and intended to

1 shield merchandise from detection by an electronic or
2 magnetic theft alarm sensor.

3
4 (b) A person commits unlawful possession of a theft
5 detection shielding device when he knowingly possesses any
6 laminated or coated bag or device peculiar to and designed
7 for shielding and intended to shield merchandise from
8 detection by an electronic or magnetic theft alarm sensor,
9 with the intent to commit theft.

10
11 (c) A person commits unlawful possession of a theft
12 detection device remover when he knowingly possesses any
13 tool or device designed to allow the removal of any theft
14 detection device from any merchandise without the
15 permission of the merchant or person owning or holding the
16 merchandise, with the intent to commit theft.

17
18 (d) A person commits the offense of unlawful removal of a
19 theft detection device when he intentionally removes the
20 device from a product prior to purchase without the
21 permission of the merchant or person owning or holding the
22 merchandise.

23
24 *****
25 *****
26

27 **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2026.

28
29 (END)