

HB 1072 -- Forfeiture of Computers Used in the Commission of Sexual Offenses

Sponsor: Bruns

This bill specifies that any computer or laptop seized in the investigation and prosecution of a sexual offense will not be returned to the offender upon a plea of guilt or a finding of guilt and a court finding if the prosecuting or circuit attorney believes the computer or laptop was used in the commission of the sexual offense. The computer or laptop will be retained by the law enforcement agency which seized the property for the agency's own use or sale. The offender may contest the forfeiture by presenting evidence and argument to the court that the computer or laptop was not used in the commission of the offense. If the court finds that the computer or laptop was not used in the commission of a sexual offense, the court must order that it be returned to the offender at the same time and in the same manner that is customary in criminal cases.