

HB 1448 -- Stealing Leased Property

Sponsor: Viebrock

This bill creates the crime of stealing leased property when a person leases personal property with a value of at least \$100 and:

- (1) Conceals, aids, or abets the concealment of the property with the intent to place it beyond the control of the lessor;
- (2) Sells, conveys, or encumbers the property without the written consent of the lessor, without informing the person to whom the lessee sells, conveys, or encumbers that the property is subject to the lease and with the intent to deprive the lessor of its possession;
- (3) Fails to return the property to the lessor at the end of the lease term with the intent to wrongfully deprive the lessor of possession of the property; or
- (4) Returns the property to the lessor at the end of the lease term but does not pay the lease charges agreed upon in the written instrument with the intent to wrongfully deprive the lessor of the agreed upon charges.

Evidence that a lessee used a false, fictitious, or not current name, address, or place of employment in obtaining the property or fails or refuses to return the property or pay the lease charges to the lessor within seven days after written demand has been sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, will be evidence of intent to commit the crime.

Anyone committing this crime will be guilty of a class A misdemeanor unless the value of the leased property stolen exceeds \$1,000, in which case the person will be guilty of a class D felony.