

State of Arkansas
95th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2025

A Bill

SENATE BILL 513

By: Senators B. Johnson, Hill
By: Representative M. Shepherd

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO CREATE THE CRIMINAL OFFENSE OF MAIL THEFT;
TO CREATE THE CRIMINAL OFFENSE OF THEFT OR
UNAUTHORIZED REPRODUCTION OF A MAIL RECEPTACLE KEY OR
LOCK; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO CREATE THE CRIMINAL OFFENSE OF MAIL
THEFT; AND TO CREATE THE CRIMINAL
OFFENSE OF THEFT OR UNAUTHORIZED
REPRODUCTION OF A MAIL RECEPTACLE KEY OR
LOCK.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 5, Chapter 36, Subchapter 1, is amended to add additional sections to read as follows:

5-36-127. Mail theft.

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Mail" means a letter, postcard, parcel, envelope, package, bag, or another sealed article addressed to another person, along with its contents;

(2) "Mail depository" means a mail box, letter box, or mail receptacle of a postal service, an office of a postal service, or a vehicle of a postal service; and

(3) "Postal service" means the United States Postal Service or its contractors or any commercial courier that delivers mail.

(b) A person commits mail theft if he or she knowingly:



(1) Takes or exercises unauthorized control over or makes an unauthorized transfer of an interest in the mail of another person that is in a mail depository or with a postal service for the purpose of depriving the other person of the mail;

(2) Obtains the mail of another person by deception or by threat with the purpose of depriving the other person of the mail; or

(3) Sells, receives, possesses, transfers, buys, or conceals mail obtained unlawfully as prohibited by subdivision (b)(1) or subdivision (b)(2) of this section, while knowing or having reason to know the mail was obtained unlawfully.

(c) Mail theft is a:

(1) Class D felony for a first offense; or

(2) Class A felony for a second or subsequent offense.

(d) In addition to the penalties provided in subsection (c) of this section, a person convicted of mail theft under this section shall be ordered to make full restitution to the victim and any other person who has suffered a financial loss as a result of the offense of mail theft.

(e) Mail theft may be prosecuted in any of the following counties:

(1) The county where the offense occurred; or

(2) The county of residence or place of business of the direct or indirect victim.

5-36-128. Theft or unauthorized reproduction of a mail receptacle key or lock.

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Mail" means a letter, postcard, parcel, envelope, package, bag, or another sealed article addressed to another person, along with its contents; and

(2) "Postal service" means the United States Postal Service or its contractors or any commercial courier that delivers mail.

(b) A person commits theft or unauthorized reproduction of a mail receptacle key or lock if he or she:

(1) Commits theft of a key or lock adopted by a postal service for a box or other authorized receptacle for the deposit or delivery of mail; or

(2) Knowingly makes, forges, or counterfeits a key or possesses

a key or lock adopted by a postal service that delivers mail with the purpose to unlawfully use, sell, or otherwise dispose of the key or lock or to cause the key or lock to be unlawfully used, sold, or otherwise disposed.

(c) Theft or unauthorized reproduction of a mail receptacle key or lock is a:

(1) Class D felony for a first offense; or

(2) Class A felony for a second or subsequent offense.

(d) In addition to the penalties provided in subsection (c) of this section, a person convicted of theft or unauthorized reproduction of a mail receptacle key or lock shall be ordered to make full restitution to the victim and any other person who has suffered a financial loss as a result of the offense.

(e) Theft or unauthorized reproduction of a mail receptacle key or lock may be prosecuted in any of the following counties:

(1) The county where the offense occurred; or

(2) The county of residence or place of business of the direct or indirect victim.

APPROVED: 4/17/25