

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

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

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

11 (c) Mail theft is a:

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

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

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

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

19 (1) The county where the offense occurred; or

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

22
23 5-36-128. Theft or unauthorized reproduction of a mail receptacle key
24 or lock.

25 (a) As used in this section:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

15 (1) The county where the offense occurred; or

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

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20 **APPROVED: 4/17/25**
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