

SESSION OF 2025

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2347

As Amended by House Committee on Judiciary

Brief*

HB 2347, as amended, would amend the required culpability of a person obtaining control over stolen property or services from “knowing” such property or services were stolen from another to a requirement the person “has reason to know” such property or services were stolen from another.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Judiciary at the request of a representative of the Wichita Police Department.

House Committee on Judiciary

In the House Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by a representative of the Wichita Police Department and a representative of the Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police, Kansas Peace Officers Association, and Kansas Sheriffs Association. The proponents generally stated the bill would allow prosecutors to prosecute theft by possession as intended and increasing the penalty on low value motor vehicle theft is commensurate with the harm done to the victim.

No other testimony was provided.

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <https://klrd.gov/>

The Committee amended the bill by removing the criminal penalty increase for theft of a motor vehicle with a value less than \$1,500.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, the Sentencing Commission indicates the bill has the potential to increase prison admissions and the number of prison beds needed; however, a precise estimate of this effect cannot be determined. The Department of Corrections indicates the bill could increase agency operating expenditures by a negligible amount that could be accommodated within existing resources.

The Judicial Branch indicates that enactment of the bill would have a negligible fiscal effect on its operations. Any fiscal effect associated with the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2026 Governor's Budget Report*.

The Kansas Association of Counties and the League of Kansas Municipalities indicate the bill has the potential to increase local government expenditures on enforcement and legal proceedings; however, a precise estimate of this effect cannot be determined.

Theft; culpability; stolen property or services