

**SENATE BILL No. 81**

By Committee on Judiciary

2-1

1 AN ACT concerning motor vehicles; relating to fleeing or attempting to  
2 elude a police officer; theft; evidence of intent to deprive an owner of  
3 possession; amending K.S.A. 2018 Supp. 8-1568, 21-5801 and 21-5804  
4 and repealing the existing sections.

5  
6 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

7 Section 1. K.S.A. 2018 Supp. 8-1568 is hereby amended to read as  
8 follows: 8-1568. (a) (1) (A) Any driver of a motor vehicle who willfully  
9 fails or refuses to bring such driver's vehicle to a stop for a pursuing police  
10 vehicle or police bicycle, when given visual or audible signal to bring the  
11 vehicle to a stop, shall be guilty as provided by subsection (c)(1).

12 ~~(2)(B)~~ Any driver of a motor vehicle who willfully otherwise flees or  
13 attempts to elude a pursuing police vehicle or police bicycle, when given  
14 visual or audible signal to bring the vehicle to a stop, shall be guilty as  
15 provided by subsection (c)(1).

16 ~~(3)(2)~~ It shall be an affirmative defense to any prosecution under  
17 subsection (a)(1) that the driver's conduct in violation of such ~~paragraph~~  
18 *subsection* was caused by such driver's reasonable belief that the vehicle or  
19 bicycle pursuing such driver's vehicle is not a police vehicle or police  
20 bicycle.

21 (b) Any driver of a motor vehicle who willfully fails or refuses to  
22 bring such driver's vehicle to a stop, or who otherwise flees or attempts to  
23 elude a pursuing police vehicle or police bicycle, when given visual or  
24 audible signal to bring the vehicle to a stop, and who: (1) Commits any of  
25 the following during a police pursuit: (A) Fails to stop for a police road  
26 block; (B) drives around tire deflating devices placed by a police officer;  
27 (C) engages in reckless driving as defined by K.S.A. 8-1566, and  
28 amendments thereto; (D) is involved in any motor vehicle accident or  
29 intentionally causes damage to property; ~~or~~ (E) commits five or more  
30 moving violations; *or (F) is operating a stolen motor vehicle; or*

31 (2) is attempting to elude capture for the commission of any felony,  
32 shall be guilty as provided in subsection (c)(2).

33 (c) (1) Violation of subsection (a), upon a:

34 (A) First conviction is a class B nonperson misdemeanor;

35 (B) second conviction is a class A nonperson misdemeanor; or

36 (C) third or subsequent conviction is a severity level 9, person felony.

1 (2) Violation of subsection (b) is a severity level 9, person felony.

2 (d) *Any term of confinement imposed for a violation of subsection (a)*  
3 *(1)(B) or (b) shall be served consecutively to any other term of*  
4 *confinement imposed for any other violation committed in whole or in part*  
5 *during the act of violating subsection (a)(1)(B) or (b).*

6 (e) The signal given by the police officer may be by hand, voice,  
7 emergency light or siren:

8 (1) If the officer giving such signal is within or upon an official police  
9 vehicle or police bicycle at the time the signal is given, the vehicle or  
10 bicycle shall be appropriately marked showing it to be an official police  
11 vehicle or police bicycle; or

12 (2) if the officer giving such signal is not utilizing an official police  
13 vehicle or police bicycle at the time the signal is given, the officer shall be  
14 in uniform, prominently displaying such officer's badge of office at the  
15 time the signal is given.

16 ~~(e)~~(f) For the purpose of this section:

17 (1) "Conviction" means a final conviction without regard to whether  
18 sentence was suspended or probation granted after such conviction.  
19 Forfeiture of bail, bond or collateral deposited to secure a defendant's  
20 appearance in court, which forfeiture has not been vacated, shall be  
21 equivalent to a conviction. For the purpose of determining whether a  
22 conviction is a first, second, third or subsequent conviction in sentencing  
23 under this section it is irrelevant whether an offense occurred before or  
24 after conviction for a previous offense.

25 (2) "Appropriately marked" official police vehicle or police bicycle  
26 shall include, but not be limited to, any police vehicle or bicycle equipped  
27 with functional emergency lights or siren or both and which the emergency  
28 lights or siren or both have been activated for the purpose of signaling a  
29 driver to stop a motor vehicle.

30 ~~(f)~~(g) The division of vehicles of the department of revenue shall  
31 promote public awareness of the provisions of this section when persons  
32 apply for or renew such person's driver's license.

33 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2018 Supp. 21-5801 is hereby amended to read as  
34 follows: 21-5801. (a) Theft is any of the following acts done with intent to  
35 permanently deprive the owner of the possession, use or benefit of the  
36 owner's property or services:

37 (1) Obtaining or exerting unauthorized control over property or  
38 services;

39 (2) obtaining control over property or services, by deception;

40 (3) obtaining control over property or services, by threat;

41 (4) obtaining control over stolen property or services knowing the  
42 property or services to have been stolen by another; or

43 (5) knowingly dispensing motor fuel into a storage container or the

1 fuel tank of a motor vehicle at an establishment in which motor fuel is  
 2 offered for retail sale and leaving the premises of the establishment  
 3 without making payment for the motor fuel.

4 (b) Theft of:

5 (1) Property or services of the value of \$100,000 or more is a severity  
 6 level 5, nonperson felony;

7 (2) property or services of the value of at least \$25,000 but less than  
 8 \$100,000 is a severity level 7, nonperson felony;

9 (3) property or services of the value of at least \$1,500 but less than  
 10 \$25,000 is a severity level 9, nonperson felony, except as provided in  
 11 subsection (b)(7);

12 (4) property or services of the value of less than \$1,500 is a class A  
 13 nonperson misdemeanor, except as provided in subsection (b)(5), (b)(6)-~~or~~,  
 14 (b)(7) *or* (b)(8);

15 (5) property of the value of less than \$1,500 from three separate  
 16 mercantile establishments within a period of 72 hours as part of the same  
 17 act or transaction or in two or more acts or transactions connected together  
 18 or constituting parts of a common scheme or course of conduct is a  
 19 severity level 9, nonperson felony;

20 (6) property of the value of at least \$50 but less than \$1,500 is a  
 21 severity level 9, nonperson felony if committed by a person who has,  
 22 within five years immediately preceding commission of the crime,  
 23 excluding any period of imprisonment, been convicted of theft two or  
 24 more times; ~~and~~

25 (7) property ~~which~~ *that* is a firearm of the value of less than \$25,000  
 26 is a severity level 9, nonperson felony; *and*

27 (8) *property that is a motor vehicle as defined in K.S.A. 8-126, and*  
 28 *amendments thereto, of the value of less than \$1,500 is a severity level 10,*  
 29 *nonperson felony.*

30 (c) As used in this section:

31 (1) "Conviction" or "convicted" includes being convicted of a  
 32 violation of K.S.A. 21-3701, prior to its repeal, this section or a municipal  
 33 ordinance which prohibits the acts that this section prohibits;

34 (2) "regulated scrap metal" means the same as in K.S.A. 2018 Supp.  
 35 50-6,109, and amendments thereto; and

36 (3) "value" means the value of the property or, if the property is  
 37 regulated scrap metal, the cost to restore the site of the theft of such  
 38 regulated scrap metal to its condition at the time immediately prior to the  
 39 theft of such regulated scrap metal, whichever is greater.

40 Sec. 3. K.S.A. 2018 Supp. 21-5804 is hereby amended to read as  
 41 follows: 21-5804. (a) In any prosecution under K.S.A. 2018 Supp. 21-5801  
 42 through 21-5839, and amendments thereto, the following shall be prima  
 43 facie evidence of intent to permanently deprive the owner or lessor of

1 property of the possession, use or benefit thereof:

2 (1) The giving of a false identification or fictitious name, address or  
3 place of employment at the time of buying, selling, leasing, trading,  
4 gathering, collecting, soliciting, procuring, receiving, dealing or otherwise  
5 obtaining or exerting control over the property;

6 (2) the failure of a person who leases or rents personal property to  
7 return the same within 10 days after the date set forth in the lease or rental  
8 agreement for the return of the property, if notice is given to the person  
9 renting or leasing the property to return the property within seven days  
10 after receipt of the notice, in which case the subsequent return of the  
11 property within the seven-day period shall exempt such transaction from  
12 consideration as prima facie evidence as provided in this section;

13 (3) destroying, breaking or opening a lock, chain, key switch,  
14 enclosure or other device used to secure the property in order to obtain  
15 control over the property;

16 (4) destruction of or substantially damaging or altering the property  
17 so as to make the property unusable or unrecognizable in order to obtain  
18 control over the property;

19 (5) the failure of a person who leases or rents from a commercial  
20 renter a motor vehicle under a written agreement that provides for the  
21 return of the motor vehicle to a particular place at a particular time, if  
22 notice has been given to the person renting or leasing the motor vehicle to  
23 return such vehicle within three calendar days from the date of the receipt  
24 or refusal of the demand. In addition, if such vehicle has not been returned  
25 after demand, the lessor may notify the local law enforcement agency of  
26 the failure of the lessee to return such motor vehicle and the local law  
27 enforcement agency shall cause such motor vehicle to be put into any  
28 appropriate state and local computer system listing stolen motor vehicles;

29 (6) the failure of a person who is provided with a use of a vehicle by  
30 the owner of the vehicle to return it to the owner pursuant to a written  
31 instruction specifying: (A) The time and place to return the vehicle; and  
32 (B) that failure to comply may be prosecuted as theft, and such instructions  
33 are delivered to the person by the owner at the time the person is provided  
34 with possession of the vehicle. In addition, if such vehicle has not been  
35 returned pursuant to the specifications in such instructions, the owner may  
36 notify the local law enforcement agency of the failure of the person to  
37 return such motor vehicle and the local law enforcement agency shall  
38 cause such motor vehicle to be put into any appropriate state and local  
39 computer system listing stolen motor vehicles;

40 (7) removing a theft detection device, without authority, from  
41 merchandise or disabling such device prior to purchase; or

42 (8) under the provisions of K.S.A. 2018 Supp. 21-5801(a)(5), and  
43 amendments thereto, the failure to replace or reattach the nozzle and hose

1 of the pump used for the dispensing of motor fuels or placing such nozzle  
2 and hose on the ground or pavement.

3 (b) In any prosecution for a misdemeanor under K.S.A. 2018 Supp.  
4 21-5801, and amendments thereto, in which the object of the alleged theft  
5 is a book or other material borrowed from a library, it shall be prima facie  
6 evidence of intent to permanently deprive the owner of the possession, use  
7 or benefit thereof if the defendant failed to return such book or material  
8 within 30 days after receiving notice from the library requesting its return,  
9 in which case the subsequent return of the book or material within the 30-  
10 day period shall exempt such transaction from consideration as prima facie  
11 evidence as provided in this section.

12 (c) In a prosecution for theft as defined in K.S.A. 2018 Supp. 21-  
13 5801, and amendments thereto, and such theft is of services, the existence  
14 of any of the connections of meters, alterations or use of unauthorized or  
15 unmeasured electricity, natural gas, water, telephone service or cable  
16 television service, caused by tampering, shall be prima facie evidence of  
17 intent to commit theft of services by the person or persons using or  
18 receiving the direct benefits from the use of the electricity, natural gas,  
19 water, telephone service or cable television service passing through such  
20 connections or meters, or using the electricity, natural gas, water,  
21 telephone service or cable television service which has not been authorized  
22 or measured.

23 (d) In a prosecution for theft as defined in K.S.A. 2018 Supp. 21-  
24 5801, and amendments thereto, and such theft is of regulated scrap metal  
25 as defined in K.S.A. 2018 Supp. 50-6,109, and amendments thereto, either  
26 in whole or in part, the failure to give information or the giving of false  
27 information to a scrap metal dealer pursuant to the requirements of the  
28 scrap metal theft reduction act, the transportation of regulated scrap metal  
29 outside the county from where it was obtained, the transportation of  
30 regulated scrap metal across state lines or the alteration of any regulated  
31 scrap metal prior to any transaction with a scrap metal dealer shall be  
32 prima facie evidence of intent to permanently deprive the owner of the  
33 regulated scrap metal of the possession, use or benefit thereof.

34 (e) *In a prosecution for theft as defined in K.S.A. 2018 Supp. 21-  
35 5801, and amendments thereto, and such theft is of a motor vehicle as  
36 defined in K.S.A. 8-126, and amendments thereto, fleeing or attempting to  
37 elude a police officer as defined in K.S.A. 8-1568(a)(1)(B) or (b), and  
38 amendments thereto, shall be prima facie evidence of intent to  
39 permanently deprive the owner of the motor vehicle of the possession, use  
40 or benefit thereof.*

41 (f) As used in this section:

42 (1) "Notice" means notice in writing and such notice in writing will  
43 be presumed to have been given three days following deposit of the notice

1 as registered or certified matter in the United States mail, addressed to  
2 such person who has leased or rented the personal property or borrowed  
3 the library material at the address as it appears in the information supplied  
4 by such person at the time of such leasing, renting or borrowing, or to such  
5 person's last known address; and

6 (2) "tampering" includes, but is not limited to:

7 (A) Making a connection of any wire, conduit or device, to any  
8 service or transmission line owned by a public or municipal utility, or by a  
9 cable television service provider;

10 (B) defacing, puncturing, removing, reversing or altering any meter  
11 or any connections, for the purpose of securing unauthorized or  
12 unmeasured electricity, natural gas, water, telephone service or cable  
13 television service;

14 (C) preventing any such meters from properly measuring or  
15 registering;

16 (D) knowingly taking, receiving, using or converting to such person's  
17 own use, or the use of another, any electricity, water or natural gas which  
18 has not been measured; or any telephone or cable television service which  
19 has not been authorized; or

20 (E) causing, procuring, permitting, aiding or abetting any person to  
21 do any of the preceding acts.

22 Sec. 4. K.S.A. 2018 Supp. 8-1568, 21-5801 and 21-5804 are hereby  
23 repealed.

24 Sec. 5. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its  
25 publication in the statute book.