

HOUSE BILL 2293

By Van Huss

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39,  
Chapter 14, relative to mail theft.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 14, Part 1, is amended by adding the following language as a new section:

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Addressee" means the person to whom a piece of mail is addressed;

(2) "Mail" means a letter, postal card, package, bag, or other sealed

article that:

(A) Is delivered by a common carrier or delivery service and not yet received by the addressee; or

(B) Has been left to be collected for delivery by a common carrier or delivery service.

(b) A person commits the offense of mail theft who intentionally takes mail from another person's mailbox or premises without the consent of the addressee and with the intent to deprive the addressee of the mail.

(c) Mail theft is punishable as follows:

(1) A first offense of mail theft is punished as theft under § 39-14-105, after determining value under § 39-11-106.

(2) A second or subsequent offense of mail theft is punished as theft under § 39-14-105, after determining value under § 39-11-106. However, in no event shall punishment for a second or subsequent offense of mail theft be less than a Class D felony.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to violations occurring on or after that date.