



HB 0369

2003

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to stolen property; amending s. 812.022,  
3           F.S.; providing that proof of possession of certain  
4           misappropriated property gives rise to an inference that  
5           the person buying or selling the property knew or should  
6           have known that it had been stolen; providing a defense to  
7           such an inference; providing an effective date.

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9   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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11           Section 1. Subsection (5) is added to section 812.022,  
12   Florida Statutes, to read:

13           812.022 Evidence of theft or dealing in stolen property.--

14           (5) Proof of possession of misappropriated property that  
15           contains identifying or ownership information, whether or not  
16           attempts have been made to alter or conceal the identifying or  
17           ownership information, gives rise to the inference that the  
18           person buying or selling the property knew or should have known  
19           that the property had been stolen. A purchaser of property may  
20           avoid this inference by contacting the identified owner, if the  
21           identifying or ownership information is decipherable, to confirm  
22           that the property has not been misappropriated, or, if the  
23           identifying or ownership information is not decipherable, by  
24           contacting local law enforcement to inquire as to whether the  
25           property may have been misappropriated.

26           Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.