

By the Committee on Judiciary; and Senator Wise

590-2488-06

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to evidence of theft or dealing in stolen property; amending s. 812.022, F.S.; providing that proof concerning the possession of a stolen motor vehicle having an ignition or steering wheel lock that has been bypassed or broken, unless satisfactorily explained, gives rise to an inference that the person possessing the motor vehicle knew or should have known that the vehicle was stolen; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (6) is added to section 812.022, Florida Statutes, to read:

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

(6) Proof that a person possesses a stolen motor vehicle and that the ignition mechanism of the motor vehicle has been bypassed or the locking mechanism of the steering wheel of the motor vehicle has been broken or bypassed, unless satisfactorily explained, gives rise to an inference that the person possessing the stolen motor vehicle knew or should have known that the motor vehicle was stolen.

Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2006.

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STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
Senate Bill 2014

The committee substitute clarifies the permissive inference created by this bill by adding the words "unless satisfactorily explained."