

[Second Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 4930

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 21, 2022

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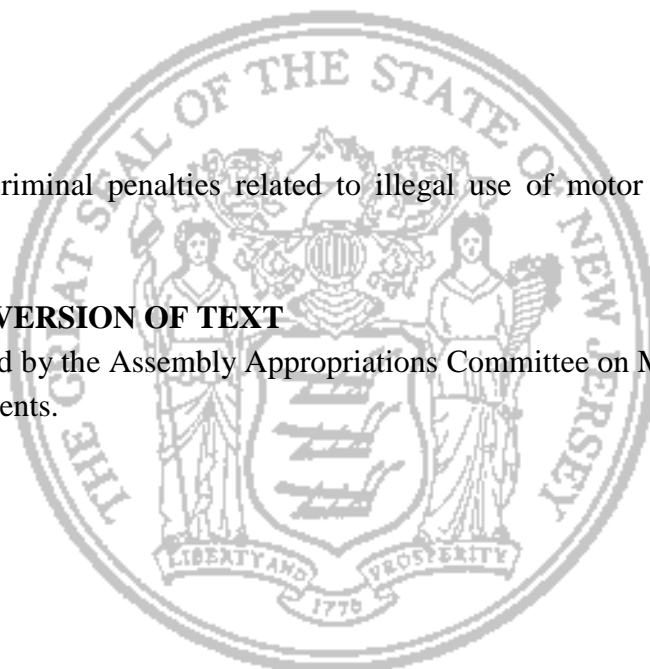
Assemblyman Stanley, Assemblywoman Murphy, Assemblymen Spearman, Coughlin, Senators A.M.Bucco, Greenstein, Bramnick, O'Scanlon, Singer and Madden

SYNOPSIS

Expands criminal penalties related to illegal use of motor vehicle master key.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Appropriations Committee on March 23, 2023, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/20/2023)

1 AN ACT concerning vehicle theft devices and amending N.J.S.2C:5-
2 6.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6
7 1. N.J.S.2C:5-6 is amended to read as follows:

8 2C: 5-6. a. **[Any]** A person **[who]** is guilty of a crime of the
9 fourth degree if the person:

10 (1) knowingly possesses a motor vehicle master key or device
11 designed to operate a lock or locks on motor vehicles or to start a
12 motor vehicle without an ignition key **[is guilty of a crime of the**
13 fourth degree.] or key fob;

14 (2) for an unlawful purpose, knowingly possesses a key fob that
15 operates a lock or locks on or starts a motor vehicle owned by another
16 person; or

17 (3) for an unlawful purpose, knowingly possesses a computer
18 program, application, software, or other device adapted, designed, or
19 commonly used to operate a lock or locks on or start a motor vehicle
20 without an ignition key or key fob, or to copy, store information
21 relating to, or interfere with those functions.

22 b. **[Any]** A person is guilty of a crime of the fourth degree if the
23 person **[who]** :

24 (1) offers or advertises for sale, sells, or gives to any person other
25 than those excepted in subsection c. of this section a motor vehicle
26 master key or device designed to operate a lock or locks on a motor
27 vehicle or to start a motor vehicle without an ignition key **[is guilty of**
28 a crime of the fourth degree.] or key fob, or who otherwise causes any
29 such item to enter into commerce in this State;

30 (2) offers or advertises for sale, sells, or gives to any person a
31 computer program, application, software, or other device adapted,
32 designed, or commonly used to operate a lock or locks on or start a
33 motor vehicle without an ignition key or key fob, or to copy, store
34 information relating to, or interfere with those functions, or who
35 otherwise causes any such item to enter into commerce in this State;

36 (i) knowing the item to be adapted, designed, or commonly used
37 for those purposes; and

38 (ii) with a purpose to provide the item to a person the actor knows
39 or reasonably should know has the purpose to use or employ the item
40 ¹unlawfully¹ .

41 c. **[Subsection a.] Paragraph (1) of subsection a. of this section**
42 **shall not apply to ²use or employment for a lawful purpose by² a law**
43 **enforcement officer² **[.]**² constable² **[.]**² locksmith **[or]** ²**[.]**²**
44 **dealer² **[.]**² distributor or manufacturer of motor vehicles or motor**
45 **vehicle locks² **[.]**² a garage keeper ²**[.]**; an insurance support**

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly ALP committee amendments adopted December 5, 2022.

²Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted March 23, 2023.

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1 organization as defined in section 2 of P.L.1985, c. 179, (C.17:23A-
2 2);² or a person or the employee or agent of a person engaged in the
3 business of lending on the security of motor vehicles[,] or [in the
4 business of] acquiring by purchase evidence of debt secured by
5 interests in motor vehicles[, and his employees and agents].
6 (cf: N.J.S.2C:5-6)

7

8 2. This act shall take effect immediately.