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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-FIFTH
SESSION

HOUSE FILE No. **584**

February 5, 2007

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Public Safety and Civil Justice

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to public safety; increasing penalties for metal theft; amending
1.3 Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 609.52, subdivision 3.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 609.52, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

1.6 Subd. 3. **Sentence.** Whoever commits theft may be sentenced as follows:

1.7 (1) to imprisonment for not more than 20 years or to payment of a fine of not more
1.8 than \$100,000, or both, if the property is a firearm, or if the value of the property or
1.9 services stolen is more than \$35,000 and the conviction is for a violation of subdivision
1.10 2, clause (3), (4), (15), or (16), or if the property stolen was a conduit for supplying or
1.11 transporting electricity or gas and was removed in a manner that creates a risk of death or
1.12 bodily harm or serious property damage; or

1.13 (2) to imprisonment for not more than ten years or to payment of a fine of not more
1.14 than \$20,000, or both, if the value of the property or services stolen exceeds \$2,500, or if
1.15 the property stolen was an article representing a trade secret, an explosive or incendiary
1.16 device, or a controlled substance listed in schedule I or II pursuant to section 152.02
1.17 with the exception of marijuana; or

1.18 (3) to imprisonment for not more than five years or to payment of a fine of not
1.19 more than \$10,000, or both, if:

1.20 (a) the value of the property or services stolen is more than \$500 but not more
1.21 than \$2,500; or

1.22 (b) the property stolen was a controlled substance listed in schedule III, IV, or V
1.23 pursuant to section 152.02; or

2.1 (c) the value of the property or services stolen is more than \$250 but not more
2.2 than \$500 and the person has been convicted within the preceding five years for an
2.3 offense under this section, section 256.98; 268.182; 609.24; 609.245; 609.53; 609.582,
2.4 subdivision 1, 2, or 3; 609.625; 609.63; 609.631; or 609.821, or a statute from another
2.5 state, the United States, or a foreign jurisdiction, in conformity with any of those sections,
2.6 and the person received a felony or gross misdemeanor sentence for the offense, or a
2.7 sentence that was stayed under section 609.135 if the offense to which a plea was entered
2.8 would allow imposition of a felony or gross misdemeanor sentence; or

2.9 (d) the value of the property or services stolen is not more than \$500, and any of
2.10 the following circumstances exist:

2.11 (i) the property is taken from the person of another or from a corpse, or grave or
2.12 coffin containing a corpse; or

2.13 (ii) the property is a record of a court or officer, or a writing, instrument or record
2.14 kept, filed or deposited according to law with or in the keeping of any public officer or
2.15 office; or

2.16 (iii) the property is taken from a burning, abandoned, or vacant building or upon its
2.17 removal therefrom, or from an area of destruction caused by civil disaster, riot, bombing,
2.18 or the proximity of battle; or

2.19 (iv) the property consists of public funds belonging to the state or to any political
2.20 subdivision or agency thereof; or

2.21 (v) the property stolen is a motor vehicle; or

2.22 (e) the value of the property stolen is more than \$250 but not more than \$500 and the
2.23 property stolen is copper or aluminum wire, cable, or tubing; or

2.24 (4) to imprisonment for not more than one year or to payment of a fine of not more
2.25 than \$3,000, or both, if the value of the property or services stolen is more than \$250 but
2.26 not more than \$500, or the value of the property stolen is \$250 or less and the property
2.27 stolen is copper or aluminum wire, cable, or tubing; or

2.28 (5) in all other cases where the value of the property or services stolen is \$250 or less,
2.29 to imprisonment for not more than 90 days or to payment of a fine of not more than \$1,000,
2.30 or both, provided, however, in any prosecution under subdivision 2, clauses (1), (2), (3),
2.31 (4), and (13), the value of the money or property or services received by the defendant in
2.32 violation of any one or more of the above provisions within any six-month period may
2.33 be aggregated and the defendant charged accordingly in applying the provisions of this
2.34 subdivision; provided that when two or more offenses are committed by the same person
2.35 in two or more counties, the accused may be prosecuted in any county in which one of the
2.36 offenses was committed for all of the offenses aggregated under this paragraph.

- 3.1 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2007, and applies to crimes
- 3.2 committed on or after that date.