

**1999 SENATE JUDICIARY**

**SB 2225**

1999 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB2225

Senate Judiciary Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date January 26, 1999

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1		x	2142 - 3972
1		x	5992 - 6100
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Jackie Follman</i>			

Minutes:

SB2225 relates to the fraudulent use of personal identifying information.

SENATOR STENEHJEM opened the hearing on SB2225 at 10:40 A.M.

All were present.

SENATOR KLEIN, District 14, testified in support of SB2225. He told what happened to a friend of his with the stealing of personal identity. Testimony attached. The intent of this legislation is to make a stiffer penalty for this crime. Allan Rick received 60 days in jail.

MICHAEL LEFOR, Associated Credit Bureaus, testified in support of SB2225. I have run into this personally. We work with the people to straightened out these things.

SENATOR STENEHJEM asked how many times you have seen this happen.

MICHAEL LEFOR stated that there has been different instances of this. This is the most extreme case I have seen.

REPRESENTATIVE CLEARY testified in support of SB2225. The House Bill 1303 provides civil relief in damages in fraud of use of a social security number. We may not stop this practice but the stiffer may deter some.

PARRELL GROSSMAN, Attorney General's Office, testified in support of SB2225. Testimony attached.

SENATOR STENEHJEM asked if he knows the status of the House bill.

PARRELL GROSSMAN stated that it was heard yesterday morning in the House Judiciary Committee.

SENATOR STENEHJEM stated that he would talk to the Chairman of that Committee.

DICK PECK, North Dakota Peace Officers Association, testified in support of SB2225.

SENATOR STENEHJEM CLOSED the hearing on SB2225.

SENATOR WATNE made a motion on Amendments, SENATOR TRAYNOR seconded.  
Motion carried.

SENATOR TRAYNOR made a motion on DO PASS AS AMENDED, SENATOR LYSON seconded. Motion carried.

SENATOR NELSON will carry this bill.





REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2225: Judiciary Committee (Sen. W. Stenehjem, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2225 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 18, remove "or"

Page 1, line 19, after "institution" insert ";

- j. An individual's birth date; or
- k. An individual's credit card number"

Page 1, after line 24, insert:

- "3. An individual aggrieved by the act of any person violating subsection 2 may bring a claim for relief to recover any equitable relief as the court determines to be appropriate and the greater of the actual damages or liquidated damages of up to ten thousand dollars.
4. In addition to any damages or other relief awarded under subsection 3, if the aggrieved individual prevails, the court may assess against the defendant reasonable attorney's fees and any other litigation costs and expenses, including expert fees, reasonably incurred by the aggrieved individual.
5. Any action brought under this section is in addition to any criminal prosecution that may be brought under any state or federal law."

Renumber accordingly

1999 HOUSE JUDICIARY

SB 2225

1999 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2225

House Judiciary Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date : March 2, 1999

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
3	X		10.8
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Dan Quindberg</i>			

Minutes:

SEN KLEIN Explained that the bill came about at the request of a constituent, and then presented written testimony from DAVID FEAKES.

JACK MCDONALD Presented written testimony, a copy of which is attached.

PARRELL GROSSMAN We need this type of a bill. Recently, I had a call from an old woman in Minot who wired \$50,000 to a party in Russia, and never saw her money again.

COMMITTEE ACTION March 9, 1999

REP. KLEMIN moved that the bill be amended which was seconded by Rep. Mahoney and which was passed on a unanimous voice vote.

REP. KOPPELMAN moved that the committee recommend that the bill DO PASS AS AMENDED. Rep. Maragos seconded and the motion carried on a roll call vote with 15 ayes, 0 nays and 0 absent. Rep. Koppelman was assigned to carry the bill.

VR  
3/10/99

**HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2225 3/10/99 Jud**

Page 1, line 2, replace "fraudulent" with "unauthorized" and after "information" insert "; and to provide a penalty"

Page 1, line 6, replace "**Fraudulent**" with "**Unauthorized**"

Page 1, line 18, after the semicolon insert "or"

Page 1, line 19, replace the semicolon with a period

Page 1, remove lines 20 and 21

**HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2225 3/10/99 Jud**

Page 2, remove lines 3 through 12

Renumber accordingly

Date: 3/9  
Roll Call Vote #: \_\_\_\_\_

1999 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2225

House JUDICIARY Committee \_\_\_\_\_

Subcommittee on \_\_\_\_\_  
or  
 Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number \_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken Do pass as Am

Motion Made By Koppelman Seconded By Maragos

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
REP. DEKREY	✓		REP. KELSH	✓	
REP. CLEARY	✓		REP. KLEMIN	✓	
REP. DELMORE	✓		REP. KOPPELMAN	✓	
REP. DISRUD	✓		REP. MAHONEY	✓	
REP. FAIRFIELD	✓		REP. MARAGOS	✓	
REP. GORDER	✓		REP. MEYER	✓	
REP. GUNTER	✓		REP. SVEEN	✓	
REP. HAWKEN	✓				

Total Yes 15 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Koppelman

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

SB 2225, as engrossed: **Judiciary Committee (Rep. DeKrey, Chairman)** recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (15 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). Engrossed SB 2225 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 2, replace "fraudulent" with "unauthorized" and after "information" insert "; and to provide a penalty"

Page 1, line 6, replace "**Fraudulent**" with "**Unauthorized**"

Page 1, line 18, after the semicolon insert "or"

Page 1, line 19, replace the semicolon with a period

Page 1, remove lines 20 and 21

Page 2, remove lines 3 through 12

Renumber accordingly

1999 TESTIMONY

SB 2225

## TESTIMONY

Prepared by Mr. Dave Feakes

I have thought about what has happened to my many long hours. How could someone have the audacity to ruin someone's life by stealing their identity and destroying their credit?

First of all, it took very many phone calls in the beginning just to find out why all this was happening. No one seemed to call and keep me posted so I felt it was important for me to try and keep ahead of the problem before the problem got any worse.

Second of all, I worked with my bank and had to change all my account number to all new accounts. Our checks to our account had to be replaced with new ones, just in case he might try to write checks on our old account. The bank informed us that a credit application has been filled out at a car dealership in Fergus Falls, Minnesota. Whoever had stolen my identity was also trying to buy a \$30,000 pickup and he was using my name and social security number to make the purchase.

After the changes in our bank were made, we thought our troubles were over, but they had only just begun. Because at that time, a representative from the National Bank of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, contacted my home. She wanted information on an account which was opened at their bank, which was under my name. During our conversation, she had informed me that she had made a copy of a driver's license which included my name, social security number and the account holder's picture. I asked her to fax me a copy so I could pass it along to the right authorities. Maybe someone knew him and we could finally catch this person. I could not believe my eyes; all my information was on this license but it sure was not my picture.

The Wells County Sheriff's Department took this copy and faxed it to Fargo and, in turn, wanted me to immediately change my license number. I then went to the Driver's License Division that day. I told them I needed to obtain a new license, changing the number and removing my social security number. It took a long awaited time because Allan Rick's photo was the picture in their computer. The

Motor Vehicle personnel had a long set of questions and calls they made before they would let me have my license back.

I returned to Fessenden to find out that the sheriff working on my case had found out who was on the photo and that he was someone the police department in Fargo knew well. Again, I was thinking it would be easy to find him and arrest him for what he had done, but it wasn't so easy. He kept writing checks all over South Dakota, Minnesota, and North Dakota with his account in Fergus Falls. He never had a dime in the account so the National Bank was sending these checks back to the businesses which accepted them. In the meantime, my credit was being ruined because it was my name and numbers which were on those checks. I was contacted by the National Bank of Sioux Falls and I also kept tabs with them. Every day more and more checks were showing up NSF. They were written to many different places and he was just bouncing from state to state, making it almost impossible to locate or catch him. My wife and I weren't sure what would come of all this, but we found out the hard way what was happening to our credit.

We had gone to a town which is about a hundred miles from where we live. We thought we would do a little shopping and see a movie. The first store we stopped at was Target. Here we had picked up some items which were worth about \$30.00. I had written the check out for the purchase and the check was rejected. We were in front of many people and the store could not give a reason for the rejection. All we knew is they would not accept our check. My family was very humiliated and degraded and it was something we had NO control of. At that point we left the store and decided we would not put ourselves through that again. We ventured home feeling like someone had pulled the rug out from under us and our lives.

Again, we are back on the phone making many phone calls to the check approval company that handles checks and credit rights for all major stores, nationwide. After mailing many forms and letters explaining what had happened, they did call and inform me that the problem had been corrected this time. How many more times was this going to happen? I kept telling myself that Allan Rick would have to make a mistake and that mistake would get him arrested.

Well, it happened, and I was never so happy to hear from the Fergus Falls Chief of Police. He explained that Rick did go back for that pickup and that the dealership contacted them, letting them know when he would be coming. I have since talked to many people on the case. I have been trying to get as much information as I can

and get all the agencies involved so Allan Rick is prosecuted. I cannot begin to explain the worries, frustrations, anger and humiliation that one man has caused. One family that has worked all our lives to keep our good name and credit history; to have it all ruined in a matter of three months. I do hope that Allan Rick is prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. The restitution we are asking for, compared to what we have been through and what we still have to go through because of his selfishness, is very minimal.

I did receive a letter from Allan Rick. In the letter, he explained to me how he ended up with my social security number and my identity. He first looked in the papers of a library which kept all news columns on obituaries. He was looking for someone his age who lived in North Dakota. In his search, he found my brother's obituary and decided to use his name. He called to Bismarck, asking for a copy of his birth certificate. He said he needed a copy because he was going to hire him. The Bismarck office told him that he was deceased and he may be "mistaken on the name!" Allan asked if there was anyone else in the family and that is when Dave's name (mine) was given and my birth certificate sent. Shortly after, Allan took the birth certificate to the North Dakota drivers (license) division and obtained a driver's license. His picture was on a driver's license which had Dave Feakes (my) social security number on it.

The rest is pretty well history. He had mine and both parents' social security numbers which told them credits looked good and he was allowed to open checking accounts and buy large items.

My wife and I have been turned in to fourteen different collection agencies. It took many letters, phone calls, and hours of our time to straighten this out. It has been almost two years and we are still finding credit companies which question our credit.

We do wish that this type of crime had stiffer penalties. In most cases, the person gets his hands slapped and a few weeks in jail. We may never get back what we lost but, hopefully, this will help you understand what people are going through.

Respectfully submitted by Dave Feakes, Fessenden, ND

Presented by Senator Jerry Klein

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE  
WAYNE STENEHJEM, CHAIRMAN  
JANUARY 26, 1999

TESTIMONY BY  
PARRELL D. GROSSMAN  
DIRECTOR, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND ANTITRUST DIVISION  
OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL  
IN SUPPORT OF  
SENATE BILL NO. 2225

Mr. Chairman and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee. I am Parrell Grossman, Director of the Consumer Protection and Antitrust Division of the Attorney General's Office. The Attorney General and the Consumer Protection Division support Senate Bill No. 2225.

This proposed legislation prohibits and penalizes the fraudulent use of personal identifying information. This legislation directly addresses the very serious, important and timely problem of "identity theft." The Attorney General strongly supports legislation to deter and redress "identity theft." There currently are two proposed bills before the Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly. Senate Bill 2225 makes "identity theft" a crime and House Bill 1303 provides civil relief and awards damages, but does not separately designate "identity theft" as a crime. For the committee's reference, I have attached a copy of House Bill 1303 that was heard by the House Judiciary Committee on Monday, January 25, 1999. These are both good bills. Frankly, due to the seriousness of "identity theft," it would be appropriate to have legislation incorporating both criminal sanctions and civil remedies.

Much of the information provided in this testimony is taken from an interview posted on the Internet site [www.bankinfo.com](http://www.bankinfo.com). The interview is conducted by Mary Beth Guard and is an interview of Mari Frank, of Laguna Niguel, California, a famous identity theft victim, who is an attorney, mediator and author. Ms. Frank is now the leading expert on identity theft and she is the author of "The Identity Theft Survival Kit, a resource guide for victims." Ms. Frank assisted in passing a new law in California making identity theft a crime as well as assisting the U.S. Senate in the passage of a law in October of 1998 making identity theft a federal crime. While I understand your very busy schedules, I encourage you to view the Internet site and related sites with a wealth of information on the topic of identity theft.

In addition to the new federal law, as of November, 1998 there were only a few states with identity theft statutes: California; Wisconsin; Arizona; Colorado;

Georgia; Kansas; Mississippi; West Virginia; and New Jersey; with legislation pending in New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania. North Dakota now also has the opportunity to enact legislation to try and protect our citizens and address some of the damages as a result of this horrible "crime."

Identity theft occurs when someone uses your name and usually your social security number to obtain credit, loans, employment, health care services, rentals, mortgages, and maybe even file bankruptcy in your name. Your identity could also be used by someone who has committed crimes and you could have a felony criminal record without even knowing it. There have been many victims who were wrongfully arrested!

The immediate and primary issue for the identity theft victim is to stop the crime spree but that unfortunately is just the start of the problem. Identity theft is a horrendous nightmare for the victim that can take months and years to try and correct, if even possible in some circumstances. A victim's major concern is to get his/her life back. Victims have lost their employment, homes, cars and their very reputations!

The crime of identity theft has become very common. According to a survey quoted by Dan Rather of CBS television, one out of four adults have already been a victim of identity theft to some degree. As of November 1998, the credit reporting agency TransUnion estimated it was receiving 56,000 calls a month to their fraud hotline from people claiming to be an identity theft victim. Mari Frank conservatively estimates there are over 500,000 new victims per year.

Absolutely no one is immune from identity theft. Anyone with a social security number can be a victim including the wealthy, poor, children, students and even the deceased. A family member may be the victim of another family member, something occurring quite regularly in the area of consumer fraud.

Identity theft occurs in many ways. Someone steals credit cards by snatching a purse or lifting a wallet from the victim, gets a hold of a loan application, steals financial papers from your home or business, etc.

Victims have reported living in "identity theft hell" for years where, with even a fraud alert on a credit report, instant credit was granted in the victim's name.

The Consumer Protection Division of the Attorney General's Office will continue to proactively educate and warn consumers about identity theft. We will assist victims in trying to curtail the damages, end the nightmare and restore their credit and reputation. However, the State of North Dakota should make identity theft a crime and award victims damages in an effort to deter the crime and punish the

offenders, as well as try and restore some financial restitution to the victims for a very devastating and horrible experience.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, for these reasons, on behalf of the Attorney General and the Consumer Protection Division, I respectfully urge this committee to give Senate Bill 2225, a "Do Pass" recommendation. Thank you. I am willing to try and answer any questions.

Introduced by

Representatives Drovdal, Kempenich

Senator Urlacher

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 32-03 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to the recovery of damages for fraudulent use of social security  
3 numbers.

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 32-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
6 created and enacted as follows:

7 **Damages for fraudulent use of social security number - Attorney's fees.**

- 8 1. No person may buy or otherwise obtain or sell, offer for for sale, take or give in  
9 exchange, pledge or give in pledge, or use any individual's social security account  
10 number, or any derivative of the number, for the purpose of committing fraud or  
11 fraudulently using or assuming the individual's identity.
- 12 2. Any individual aggrieved by the act of any person in violation of subsection 1 may  
13 bring a claim for relief to recover any equitable relief as the court determines to be  
14 appropriate and the greater of the actual damages or liquidated damages of up to  
15 ten thousand dollars.
- 16 3. In addition to any damages or other relief awarded under subsection 2, if the  
17 aggrieved individual prevails, the court may assess against the defendant  
18 reasonable attorney's fees and any other litigation costs and expenses, including  
19 expert fees, reasonably incurred by the aggrieved individual.
- 20 4. Any action brought under this section is in addition to any criminal prosecution that  
21 may be brought under any state or federal law.



OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

Heidi Heitkamp  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

MEMORANDUM

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FAX 701-328-3535

**Gaming Division**

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FAX 701-328-3535

**Licensing Section**

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**Natural Resources**

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**Racing Commission**

701-328-4290

**Bureau of Criminal  
Investigation**

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**TO:** Honorable Duane DeKrey, Chairman, House Judiciary  
Committee  
Honorable Kim Koppelman, Vice-Chairman  
Honorable Lois Delmore  
Honorable Rachael Disrud  
Honorable April Fairfield  
Honorable William E. Gorder  
Honorable G. Jane Gunter  
Honorable Kathy Hawken  
Honorable Scot Kelsh  
Honorable Lawrence R. Klemin  
Honorable John Mahoney  
Honorable Andrew G. Maragos  
Honorable Shirley Meyer  
Honorable Gerald O. Sveen

**FROM:** Parrell D. Grossman, Director, Consumer  
Protection Division *PDG*

**RE:** House Bill 1303 and Senate Bill 2225

**DATE:** February 5, 1999

---

Enclosed for your review and consideration are copies of my February 4, 1999, memorandum to the Senate Judiciary Committee, including proposed amendments to Senate Bill 2225.

I was very pleased on behalf of consumers to see the legislation proposed in both House Bill 1303 and Senate Bill 2225. I really appreciated your committee's reception and careful consideration of House Bill 1303.

At the time of my appearance and testimony before the House Judiciary Committee in regard to House Bill 1303, there was some discussion and a request by your committee to consider and/or draft proposed amendments to House Bill 1303. Shortly thereafter I appeared before the Senate Judiciary Committee regarding Senate Bill 2225 and I raised a similar

February 5, 1999

Page 2

request for proposed amendments to incorporate the best provisions from each bill.

After careful consideration of both bills, it appeared to me to be more appropriate and expeditious to propose amendments to Senate Bill 2225. The House Judiciary Committee was interested in possible amendments that would provide identity theft victims with additional rights, etc., to restore or address their credit history after the occurrence of identity theft. This is an excellent observation and goal. However, it does not immediately occur to me that there would be any short, simple or precise language that would provide such relief and that could be included in proposed amendments to House Bill 1303. Federal law, pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, does provide some relief to victims of identity theft in regard to disputing and/or removing incorrect or inaccurate information on their credit report. We would need to carefully review and consider whether and what additional or different legislation is required or necessary in North Dakota to separately address the issue. At your request, I am willing to pursue that project in the future.

Please let Senator Stenehjem and the Senate Judiciary Committee know your thoughts on my proposed amendments to Senate Bill 2225 and the status of House Bill 1303. If I can provide any further information or assist in any way, please let me know.

Thank you for your consideration.

vkk

Enclosure

cc: Senate Judiciary Committee



OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

Heidi Heitkamp  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** Honorable Wayne Stenehjem, Chairman, Senate  
Judiciary Committee  
Honorable Darlene Watne, Vice-Chairman  
Honorable Dennis Bercier  
Honorable Stanley W. Lyson  
Honorable Carolyn Nelson  
Honorable John T. Traynor

**FROM:** Parrell D. Grossman, Director, Consumer Protection Division **BG**

**RE:** Proposed Amendments to Senate Bill 2225

**DATE:** February 5, 1999

---

I have prepared for your review and consideration Proposed Amendments to Senate Bill No. 2225.

I have added a new subsection "f. An individual's birth date". I then added Section 2 to the bill that proposes to include the civil penalties language from subsections 2, 3, and 4 of House Bill 1303. I have for clarification changed the language from subsection 2 of HB 1303 to now read "the greater of liquidated damages up to ten thousand dollars or actual damages," as opposed to "the greater of actual damages or liquidated damages of up to ten thousand dollars."

For your information, the proposed legislation is now patterned somewhat after the provisions of N.D.C.C. §§ 12.1-23.1-01 and 12.1-23.1-02 addressing theft of cable television and civil penalties for the same. I have provided copies of those statutes for your review.

I believe the proposed amendments would create good legislation that combines the best of Senate Bill 2225 and House Bill 1303. However, I understand your committee may have other thoughts and considerations. I will provide a copy of my proposed amendments to the House Judiciary Committee.

If you have any questions or I can be of any assistance, please let me know. Thank you for your consideration.

vkk  
cc: House Judiciary Committee

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 2225

Page 1, after line 14, insert:

"f. An individual's birth date;"

Page 1, after line 24, insert:

"SECTION 2. A new section to chapter 12.1-23 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

**Civil penalties for fraudulent use of personal identifying information.**

1. Any individual aggrieved by the act of any person in violation of subsection 2 of section 1 of Senate Bill 2225 may bring a claim for relief to recover any equitable relief as the court determines to be appropriate and the greater of liquidated damages up to ten thousand dollars or actual damages.
2. In addition to any damages or other relief awarded under subsection 1, if the aggrieved individual prevails, the court may assess against the defendant reasonable attorney's fees and other litigation costs and expenses, including expert fees, reasonably incurred by the aggrieved individual.
3. Any action brought under subsection 1 is in addition to any criminal prosecution brought under state or federal law."

Renumber accordingly

commit theft by deception. *State v. Bastien*, 436 N.W.2d 229 (N.D. 1989).

#### Property of Another.

Fact that one person has title to property does not preclude property from being property of another person within meaning of this section; fact that title to automobile remained in name of defendant at time of its theft did not preclude a finding that defendant took or exercised unauthorized control over property of another where there was evidence that defendant had traded car to another person prior to its theft. *State v. Cox*, 325 N.W.2d 181 (N.D. 1982).

#### Theft by Deception.

Defendant's argument that his conduct was only a breach of contract and not a crime overlooked the "continuing scheme" statutory language in section 12.1-23-02; while theft by deception is limited so that a fraudulent intent not to perform a promise cannot be inferred from the nonperformance of a contract, if the nonperformance is part of a continuing scheme to defraud, deceptive intent may be inferred. *State v. Hersch*, 445 N.W.2d 626 (N.D. 1989).

Double-billing by accountant for three or four quarters, at \$ 210 per quarter, supported conviction of theft in excess of \$ 500, where accountant had another board member sign blank checks, then made the checks payable to himself, provided the required second signature, filed invoices and canceled checks in

records stored in his office, and never showed those records to any other representative of organization, from which conduct a rational factfinder could find a continuing scheme to defraud. *State v. Trosen*, 547 N.W.2d 735 (N.D. 1996).

#### DECISIONS UNDER PRIOR LAW

##### Definition in Jury Instruction.

A defendant on trial for larceny was entitled to have definition of the word "steal" given in a charge to the jury so that the jurors could apply the evidence to the charge with a full understanding of its meaning. *State v. Tough*, 12 N.D. 425, 96 N.W. 1025 (1903).

##### Generally.

Under C.L. 1913, § 9916, "grand larceny" was the taking of personal property exceeding twenty dollars in value, or when the property was taken from the person of another without regard to its value. *State v. Bossart*, 62 N.D. 11, 241 N.W. 78 (1932).

Under C.L. 1913, § 9916, "petit larceny" was the taking of personal property not from the person of another, nor of value exceeding twenty dollars. *State v. Bossart*, 62 N.D. 11, 241 N.W. 78 (1932).

##### Collateral References.

Validity and construction of terroristic threat statutes, 45 A.L.R.4th 949.

Possession of stolen property as continuing offense, 24 A.L.R.5th 132.

## CHAPTER 12.1-23.1

### THEFT OF CABLE TELEVISION

Section	Section	
12.1-23.1-01. Theft of cable television services — Penalty.		vices — Action — Injunction — Property forfeiture.
12.1-23.1-02. Civil penalties for theft of cable television services.	12.1-23.1-04. Amateur radio communications	— Exemption.
12.1-23.1-03. Theft of cable television ser-		

**12.1-23.1-01. Theft of cable television services — Penalty.** A person is guilty of a class B misdemeanor if the person:

1. Knowingly obtains or attempts to obtain cable television service from another by any means, artifice, trick, deception, or device without the payment to the cable television operator of all lawful compensation for each type of service obtained;
2. Knowingly assists or instructs any other person in obtaining or attempting to obtain any cable television service without the payment to the cable television operator of all lawful compensation for each type of service obtained or attempted to be obtained;

3. Knowingly tampers, diverts from, or connects to by any means, whether mechanical, electrical, acoustical or other means, any cables, wires, or other devices used for the distribution of cable television without authority from the cable television operator; or
4. Knowingly manufactures, imports into this state, distributes, sells, offers for sale or rental, possesses for sale, or advertises for sale, any device, plan or kit for a device, or printed circuit, designed to unlock, decode, descramble, or otherwise make intelligible any locked, encoded, scrambled, or other nonstandard signal carried by the cable television system, thereby facilitating the doing of any acts specified in subsections 1, 2, and 3.

Source: S.L. 1985, ch. 180, § 1.

business for use, or providing technical means of use, of transmissions by nonsubscribers, 46 A.L.R.4th 811.

**Collateral References.**

State civil actions by subscription television

**12.1-23.1-02. Civil penalties for theft of cable television services.**

1. Any person who violates subsection 1, 2, or 3 of section 12.1-23.1-01 is liable to the franchised or otherwise duly licensed cable television system for the greater of one thousand dollars or three times the amount of actual damages, if any, sustained by the system, plus reasonable attorney fees.
2. Any person who violates subsection 4 of section 12.1-23.1-01 is liable to the franchised or otherwise duly licensed cable television system for the greater of ten thousand dollars or three times the amount of actual damages, if any, sustained by the plaintiff, plus reasonable attorney fees. A second or subsequent conviction is punishable by the greater of twenty thousand dollars or three times the amount of actual damages, if any, plus reasonable attorney fees.

Source: S.L. 1985, ch. 180, § 2.

business for use, or providing technical means of use, of transmissions by nonsubscribers, 46 A.L.R.4th 811.

**Collateral References.**

State civil actions by subscription television

**12.1-23.1-03. Theft of cable television services — Action — Injunction — Property forfeiture.**

1. Any franchised or otherwise duly licensed cable television system may bring an action to enjoin and restrain violation of section 12.1-23.1-01 or an action for conversion, or both, and may in the same action seek damages as provided for in section 12.1-23.1-02.
2. Any communications paraphernalia prohibited under section 12.1-23.1-01 may be seized and, upon conviction, is forfeited to the jurisdiction where the arrest was made. The paraphernalia may be, pursuant to court order, sold or destroyed.

March 2, 1999

**HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE**  
**SB 2225**

**CHAIRMAN DEKREY AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

My name is Jack McDonald. I'm appearing today on behalf of The DeHart and Darr, Inc., a marketing agency doing business in many states, including North Dakota, and which is located in McLean, VA.

We think SB 2225 makes good sense and should be enacted to help protect an individual's personal identifying information.

However, to be consistent, and to make it clear exactly what type of conduct is being prohibited and made a felony, which is a very serious offense, we think the amendment we are suggesting should be adopted. In line two, the bill states it deals with the "**fraudulent use**" of this information. On line 6, the black letter definition concerns the "**fraudulent use**" of the information.

Therefore, the type of use that is made a felony and which is described on line 22 should also be "**fraudulent use.**"

We urge your favorable consideration of the amendments and a DO PASS as amended. If you have any questions, I'll be happy to answer them. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND CONSIDERATION.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ENGROSSED SENATE BILL 2225

On page 1, line 22, after the word "person" insert "fraudulently" and after the word "to" insert "fraudulently"

Re-number accordingly