

# HOUSE BILL ANALYSIS

## E SSB 5033

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**Title:** An act relating to possession of stolen checks or drafts.

**Brief Description:** Concerning the crime of possessing stolen property in the second degree.

**Sponsors:** Senator Roach

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### HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND CORRECTIONS

**Staff:** Yvonne Walker (786-7841)

**Background:** Possession— of stolen credit cards or access devices issued in the names of two or more persons creates a presumption that the possessor had knowledge that the items were stolen. The possession of these stolen credit cards or access devices is theft in the third degree and is a gross misdemeanor.

Theft— of checks or drafts is theft in the third degree and is a gross misdemeanor.

**Summary:** The possession— of stolen checks or drafts issued in the accounts of two or more people creates a presumption that the possessor knows that they are stolen. The possession of stolen checks or drafts is theft in the second degree, a level 1, class C felony.

The penalty for the theft— of checks or drafts is also increased from a gross misdemeanor to a level 1, class C felony.

**Require the Exercise of Rule- Making Powers:** No.

**Fiscal Note:** Received on March 21, 1997.

**Effective Date:** This bill contains an emergency clause and takes effect immediately.