

BILL SUMMARY
2nd Session of the 60th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB3244
Version:	INT
Request Number:	15386
Author:	Rep. Bashore
Date:	2/23/2026
Impact:	\$0

Research Analysis

HB 3244 clarifies the offense of organized retail theft by providing that persons who engage in criminal offenses in two or more municipalities; in an unincorporated area; when one offense is committed outside this state and the other is committed within the state; and in circumstances when the initial act was committed online through cyberspace, by a computer application, social media, artificial intelligence, or by a cellular network, regardless of location, and an additional act was committed inside this state is to be considered a pattern of criminal offenses and are subject to a Class D1 felony. The measure also provides that it is a criminal offense to use coercion, deception, or enticement to exploit a person who has a mental illness, vulnerable, or homeless, disabled or elderly person to engage in any crime. The crime is a felony punishable by imprisonment for up to 10 years, a fine of up to \$10,000 or both fine and imprisonment. A pattern of exploitation is punishable by imprisonment for up to 20 years, a fine of up to \$20,000 or both. Possession or use of a wide array of personal identifying information, including biometric data, digital credentials, financial information, and government-issued IDs, with each item constituting a separate offense. The offense is a felony with varying degrees of punishment dependent upon the number of previous convictions. Aggravated identity theft is defined by possession of five or more such items from different individuals. Aggravated identity theft is a felony punishable by not less than 10 years nor more than 15 years imprisonment.

Prepared By: Brad Wolgamott

Fiscal Analysis

HB3244 modifies penalties associated with pattern of criminal offenses, exploitation of elderly or disabled persons, and identity theft. The measure creates new felony offenses with imprisonment terms of up to 10 years for exploitation violations, up to 20 years for pattern exploitation violations, and 10-15 years for aggravated identity theft. It also establishes enhanced penalties for subsequent identity theft convictions, including mandatory minimum sentences of 10-15 years for third or subsequent convictions and aggravated identity theft. The frequency of a newly created crime cannot be predicted, and any resulting change to the revenues collected by the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) or change in the costs incurred by the Department of Corrections (DOC) from these penalty modifications are expected to be immaterial and/or absorbed by the agencies. Therefore, this measure in its current form is anticipated to be budget neutral.

Prepared By: House Fiscal Staff

Other Considerations

None.

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