

1 AN ACT concerning vehicles.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,  
3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Illinois Vehicle Code is amended by  
5 changing Section 12-612 as follows:

6 (625 ILCS 5/12-612)

7 Sec. 12-612. False or secret compartment in a motor  
8 vehicle.

9 (a) Offenses. It is unlawful for any person to own or  
10 operate any motor vehicle he or she knows to contain a false  
11 or secret compartment. It is unlawful for any person to  
12 knowingly install, create, build, or fabricate in any motor  
13 vehicle a false or secret compartment.

14 (b) Definitions. For purposes of this Section, a "false  
15 or secret compartment" means any enclosure that is intended  
16 and designed to be used to conceal, hide, and prevent  
17 discovery by law enforcement officers of the false or secret  
18 compartment, or its contents, and which is integrated into a  
19 vehicle. For purpose of this Section, a person's intention  
20 to use a false or secret compartment to conceal the contents  
21 of the compartment from a law enforcement officer may be  
22 inferred from factors including, but not limited to, the  
23 discovery of a person, firearm, controlled substance, or  
24 other contraband within the false or secret compartment, or  
25 from the discovery of evidence of the previous placement of a  
26 person, firearm, controlled substance, or other contraband  
27 within the false or secret compartment.

28 (c) Forfeiture. Any motor vehicle containing a false or  
29 secret compartment, as well as any items within that  
30 compartment, shall be subject to seizure by the Department of  
31 State Police or by any municipal or other local law

1 enforcement agency within whose jurisdiction that property is  
2 found as provided in Sections 36-1 and 36-2 of the Criminal  
3 Code of 1961 (720 ILCS 5/36-1 and 5/36-2). The removal of  
4 the false or secret compartment from the motor vehicle, or  
5 the promise to do so, shall not be the basis for a defense to  
6 forfeiture of the motor vehicle under Section 36-2 of the  
7 Criminal Code of 1961 and shall not be the basis for the  
8 court to release the vehicle to the owner.

9 (d) Sentence. A violation of this Section is a Class 4  
10 felony C-misdemeanor.

11 (Source: P.A. 91-359, eff. 1-1-00.)