

1 AN ACT concerning criminal law.

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

4 Section 5. The Criminal Code of 1961 is amended by adding  
5 Section 16-23 as follows:

6 (720 ILCS 5/16-23 new)

7 Sec. 16-23. Copper theft.

8 (a) A person commits copper theft when, without the consent  
9 of the owner, he or she knowingly obtains or exerts control  
10 over property of the owner or aids or assists in obtaining or  
11 exerting control over property of the owner:

12 (1) consisting of any copper or copper alloy; and

13 (2) which is manufactured, sold, or used as:

14 (A) a telegraph, telephone, cable  
15 telecommunications, electric power transmission  
16 pedestal, underground residential distribution device,  
17 or pole;

18 (B) a telephone, cable telecommunications, or  
19 electric power line;

20 (C) a wire or fiber insulator, power supply,  
21 transformer, grounding system, transmission or other  
22 apparatus, equipment or fixture used in the  
23 transmission of telegraph, telephone, cable

- 1           telecommunications, or electrical power service;  
2           (D) equipment related to wireless communications  
3           regulated by the Federal Communications Commission;  
4           (E) a fixture, including a gutter, downspout,  
5           plumbing pipe or fixture; or  
6           (F) an irrigation unit including a cable, pump, or  
7           power supply.

8           (b) Sentence.

9           (1) Copper theft not exceeding \$500 in value is a Class  
10          4 felony.

11          (2) Copper theft not exceeding \$500 in value if the  
12          theft was committed in a school or place of worship or if  
13          the theft was of governmental property is a Class 3 felony.

14          (3) Copper theft exceeding \$500 and not exceeding  
15          \$10,000 in value, is a Class 2 felony.

16          (4) Copper theft exceeding \$500 in value if the theft  
17          was committed in a school or place of worship or if the  
18          theft was of governmental property is a Class 1 felony.

19          (5) Copper theft exceeding \$10,000 in value is a Class  
20          1 felony.