

1 AN ACT in relation to 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  
5 adding Section 16-17 as follows:

6 (720 ILCS 5/16-17 new)

7 Sec. 16-17. Theft of advertising services.

8 (a) In this Section, "unauthorized advertisement" means  
9 any form of representation or communication, including any  
10 handbill, newsletter, pamphlet, or notice that contains any  
11 letters, words, or pictorial representation that is attached  
12 to or inserted in a newspaper or periodical without a  
13 contractual agreement between the publisher and an  
14 advertiser.

15 (b) Except as provided in subsection (c), any person who  
16 knowingly attaches or inserts an unauthorized advertisement  
17 in a newspaper or periodical, and who redistributes it to the  
18 public or who has the intent to redistribute it to the  
19 public, is guilty of the offense of theft of advertising  
20 services.

21 (c) Any person who knowingly acts in concert with  
22 another to attach or insert an unpaid advertisement in  
23 violation of subsection (b) is guilty of the offense of  
24 theft of advertising services.

25 (d) Sentence. Theft of advertising services is a Class A  
26 misdemeanor.

27 (e) This Section applies to any newspaper or periodical  
28 that is offered for retail sale or is distributed without  
29 charge.

30 (f) This Section does not apply if the publisher or  
31 authorized distributor of the newspaper or periodical

1 consents to the attachment or insertion of the advertisement.

2 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon

3 becoming law.