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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

H. F. No. 3465

02/19/2026 Authored by Liebling, Lillie and Clardy
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Public Safety Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to public safety; establishing enhanced penalties for theft from a vulnerable
1.3 adult; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 609.52, subdivision 3a.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 609.52, subdivision 3a, is amended to read:

1.6 Subd. 3a. Enhanced penalty penalties; risk of harm; vulnerable adult. (a) If a violation
1.7 of this section creates a reasonably foreseeable risk of bodily harm to another, the penalties
1.8 described in subdivision 3 are enhanced as follows:

1.9 (1) if the penalty is a misdemeanor or a gross misdemeanor, the person is guilty of a
1.10 felony and may be sentenced to imprisonment for not more than three years or to payment
1.11 of a fine of not more than \$5,000, or both; and

1.12 (2) if the penalty is a felony, the statutory maximum sentence for the offense is 50 percent
1.13 longer than for the underlying crime.

1.14 (b) If a person violates this section knowing or having reason to know that the victim
1.15 of the offense is a vulnerable adult as defined in section 609.232, subdivision 11, the penalties
1.16 described in subdivision 3 are enhanced as follows:

1.17 (1) if the penalty is a misdemeanor, the person is guilty of a gross misdemeanor;

1.18 (2) if the penalty is a gross misdemeanor, the person is guilty of a felony and may be
1.19 sentenced to imprisonment for not more than two years or to payment of a fine of not more
1.20 than \$5,000, or both; and

2.1 (3) if the penalty is a felony, the statutory maximum sentence for the offense is 25 percent
2.2 longer than for the underlying crime.

2.3 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2026, and applies to crimes
2.4 committed on or after that date.