

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Federal Mail Theft

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Overview

Creates the crime of mail fraud and prescribes penalties. Authorizes prosecutors to file charges for identity theft and mail theft in the jurisdiction where the victim resides. Permits aggregation in cases of identity and mail theft.

Section

- 1** **Theft of mail.** Creates the crime of mail theft.
- 2** **Penalties.** Imposes a three-year felony or a fine of up to \$3,000, or both, for mail theft.
- 3** **Venue.** Authorizes prosecutors to file charges for identity theft and mail theft in either the county where the offense occurred or the county of residence or place of business of the victim. The purpose of this provision is to give prosecutors more flexibility in prosecuting identity theft.
- 4** **Aggregation.** Permits prosecutors to aggregate the value of money and property obtained through identity theft and mail theft to increase the level of the offense. Permits prosecutors to file charges in any county in which one of the aggravated offenses occurred.