

1 HOUSE BILL 156

2 **54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2020**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Abbas Akhil and Joy Garratt and Daymon Ely and Natalie Figueroa  
5 and Gail Armstrong  
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11 AN ACT

12 RELATING TO CRIME; CREATING THE CRIME OF ILLEGALLY DISMANTLING  
13 STOLEN VEHICLES; PROVIDING A PENALTY.  
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15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

16 SECTION 1. A new section of the Criminal Code is enacted  
17 to read:

18 "[NEW MATERIAL] ILLEGALLY DISMANTLING STOLEN VEHICLES--  
19 PENALTY.--

20 A. Illegally dismantling stolen vehicles consists  
21 of a person knowingly:

22 (1) owning, operating, maintaining or  
23 controlling a chop shop, knowing that it is a chop shop;

24 (2) transporting an unlawfully obtained motor  
25 vehicle or major component motor vehicle part to or from a chop

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1 shop, knowing that it is a chop shop; or

2 (3) selling or transferring to, or purchasing  
3 or receiving from, a chop shop, knowing that it is a chop shop,  
4 an unlawfully obtained motor vehicle or major component motor  
5 vehicle part.

6 B. A violation of:

7 (1) Paragraph (1) of Subsection A of this  
8 section is a third degree felony; and

9 (2) Paragraph (2) or (3) of Subsection A of  
10 this section is a fourth degree felony.

11 C. As used in this section:

12 (1) "chop shop" means a building, lot,  
13 facility or other structure or premises where a person  
14 possesses, receives, stores, disassembles or alters, including  
15 the alteration or concealment of any identifying feature or  
16 number, including the manufacturer's serial number, engine  
17 number, decal or other distinguishing number or identification  
18 mark or number placed under assignment of the motor vehicle  
19 division of the taxation and revenue department of a vehicle  
20 required to be registered pursuant to the Motor Vehicle Code or  
21 any vehicle, motor vehicle or motor vehicle engine or component  
22 as defined in the Motor Vehicle Code, an unlawfully obtained  
23 motor vehicle or major component motor vehicle part for the  
24 purpose of using, selling or disposing of the motor vehicle or  
25 major component motor vehicle part;

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1 (2) "motor vehicle" means every vehicle that  
2 is self-propelled and every vehicle that is propelled by  
3 electric power obtained from batteries or from overhead trolley  
4 wires, but not operated upon rails; and

5 (3) "unlawfully obtained" means obtained by  
6 theft, fraud or deceit or obtained without the permission of  
7 the owner."

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