

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 578 (HB 1104)

2026 Regular Session

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New law provides definitions for "motor vehicle key programming or emulating device" and "relay attack device".

New law prohibits manufacturing, selling, or offering to sell either device and provides a penalty of a fine up to \$1,000 or six months imprisonment, or both.

New law creates exceptions for a law enforcement officer, an employee of the Nat'l Insurance Crime Bureau, and an employee of a licensed dealer, distributor, or manufacturer of motor vehicles or motor vehicle locks, a motor vehicle mechanic shop, locksmith company, or repossession agency.

New law provides that possession alone is not a violation of new law, but criminal intent may be inferred from the circumstances, including but not limited to the following:

- (1) Possession while attempting to enter a motor vehicle without authorization.
- (2) Possession of multiple devices without a lawful purpose.
- (3) Possession in conjunction with tools commonly used for vehicle theft.

New law requires a person authorized to manufacture, sell, or offer to sell a motor vehicle key programming or emulating device or a relay attack device to report a lost or stolen device within 48 hours of becoming aware that it was lost or stolen.

New law requires anyone who does not report a stolen device within 48 hours to be fined not more than \$1,000 or imprisoned not more than six months, or both.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Adds R.S. 14:406)