1	H.534
2	Introduced by Representatives LaLonde of South Burlington, Notte of Rutland
3	City, Anthony of Barre City, Arsenault of Williston, Austin of
4	Colchester, Black of Essex, Brumsted of Shelburne, Burrows of
5	West Windsor, Carpenter of Hyde Park, Chase of Chester,
6	Christie of Hartford, Coffey of Guilford, Conlon of Cornwall,
7	Dodge of Essex, Dolan of Essex Junction, Dolan of Waitsfield,
8	Durfee of Shaftsbury, Houghton of Essex Junction, Howard of
9	Rutland City, Hyman of South Burlington, James of
10	Manchester, Krasnow of South Burlington, Lalley of Shelburne
11	Masland of Thetford, McCann of Montpelier, McCarthy of St.
12	Albans City, Minier of South Burlington, Mrowicki of Putney,
13	Noyes of Wolcott, Nugent of South Burlington, Ode of
14	Burlington, Priestley of Bradford, Scheu of Middlebury, Sims
15	of Craftsbury, Stebbins of Burlington, Templeman of
16	Brownington, White of Bethel, and Wood of Waterbury
17	Referred to Committee on
18	Date:
19	Subject: Crimes; retail theft
20	Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to permit the
21	aggregate value of stolen property to be used to determine the criminal penalty

1	for retail theft when it is committed by a person acting in concert with another
2	person, to increase the penalty for retail theft if a person commits more than
3	one violation within a 14-day period and the aggregate retail value of the
4	merchandise taken away exceeds \$900.00, and to decrease the felony penalty
5	for retail theft when the value of the stolen property exceeds \$900.00.

An act relating to retail theft

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- 7 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:
- 8 Sec. 1. 13 V.S.A. § 2575 is amended to read:
- 9 § 2575. OFFENSE OF RETAIL THEFT
- A person commits the offense of retail theft when the person, with intent of depriving a merchant wrongfully of the lawful possession of merchandise, money, or credit:
  - (1) takes and carries away or causes to be taken and carried away or aids and abets the carrying away of, any merchandise from a retail mercantile establishment without paying the retail value of the merchandise; or

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1	Sec. 2. 13 V.S.A. § 2577 is amended to read:
2	§ 2577. PENALTY
3	(a) A person convicted of the offense of retail theft of merchandise having
4	a retail value not in excess of \$900.00 shall be punished by a fine of not more
5	than \$500.00 or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both.
6	(b) A person convicted of the offense of retail theft of merchandise having
7	a retail value in excess of \$900.00 shall be punished by a fine of not more than
8	\$1,000.00 or imprisonment for not more than 10 five years, or both.
9	* * *
10	(d) A person who acts in concert with one or more persons to commit the
11	offense of retail theft in violation of subdivision 2575(1) of this title shall be:
12	(1) punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000.00 or imprisonment for
13	not more than five years, or both, if the aggregate retail value of the
14	merchandise taken away exceeds \$900.00 and is \$10,000.00 or less; or
15	(2) punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000.00 or imprisonment for
16	not more than 10 years, or both, if the aggregate retail value of the
17	merchandise taken away exceeds \$10,000.00.
18	(e) A person who commits more than one retail theft offense in violation of
19	subdivision 2575(1) of this title in more than one location within a 14-day

period shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000.00 or imprisonment

- for not more than three years, or both, if the aggregate retail value of the
- 2 merchandise taken away exceeds \$900.00.
- 3 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE
- 4 This act shall take effect on passage.