No. 1997-42

## AN ACT

HB 1341

Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for retail theft.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. Section 3929(a) of Title 18 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a paragraph to read: § 3929. Retail theft.

- (a) Offense defined.—A person is guilty of a retail theft if he:
- (5) destroys, removes, renders inoperative or deactivates any inventory control tag, security strip or any other mechanism designed or employed to prevent an offense under this section with the intention of depriving the merchant of the possession, use or benefit of such merchandise without paying the full retail value thereof.

Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED—The 25th day of June, A.D. 1997.

THOMAS J. RIDGE