

**THE MICHIGAN PENAL CODE (EXCERPT)**  
**Act 328 of 1931**

**750.540g Telecommunications service; unauthorized use by officer, shareholder, partner, employee, agent, or independent contractor; use in separate incidents pursuant to scheme or course of conduct; enhanced sentence based on prior convictions.**

Sec. 540g. (1) An officer, shareholder, partner, employee, agent, or independent contractor of a telecommunications service provider who knowingly and without authority uses or diverts telecommunications services for his or her own benefit or to the benefit of another person is guilty of a crime as follows:

(a) If the total value of the telecommunications service used or diverted is less than \$200.00, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 93 days or a fine of not more than \$500.00 or 3 times the total value of the telecommunications service used or diverted, whichever is greater, or both imprisonment and a fine.

(b) If any of the following apply, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 1 year or a fine of not more than \$2,000.00 or 3 times the total value of the telecommunications service used or diverted, whichever is greater, or both imprisonment and a fine:

(i) The total value of the telecommunications service used or diverted is \$200.00 or more but less than \$1,000.00.

(ii) The person violates subdivision (a) and has 1 or more prior convictions for committing or attempting to commit an offense under this section or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to this section.

(c) If any of the following apply, the person is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 5 years or a fine of not more than \$10,000.00 or 3 times the total value of the telecommunications service used or diverted, whichever is greater, or both imprisonment and a fine:

(i) The total value of the telecommunications service used or diverted is \$1,000.00 or more but less than \$20,000.00.

(ii) The person violates subdivision (b)(i) and has 1 or more prior convictions for committing or attempting to commit an offense under this section. For purposes of this subparagraph, however, a prior conviction does not include a conviction for a violation or attempted violation of subdivision (a) or (b)(ii).

(d) If any of the following apply, the person is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 10 years or a fine of not more than \$15,000.00 or 3 times the value of the telecommunications service used or diverted, whichever is greater, or both imprisonment and a fine:

(i) The total value of the telecommunications service used or diverted is \$20,000.00 or more.

(ii) The person violates subdivision (c)(i) and has 2 or more prior convictions for committing or attempting to commit an offense under this section. For purposes of this subparagraph, however, a prior conviction does not include a conviction for a violation or attempted violation of subdivision (a) or (b)(ii).

(2) The values of telecommunications service used or diverted in separate incidents under a scheme or course of conduct within any 12-month period may be aggregated to determine the total value of the telecommunications service used or diverted. The courts shall also include the value of all telecommunications services made available to the violator and others as a result of the violation.

(3) If the prosecuting attorney intends to seek an enhanced sentence based upon the defendant having 1 or more prior convictions, the prosecuting attorney shall include on the complaint and information a statement listing the prior conviction or convictions. The existence of the defendant's prior conviction or convictions shall be determined by the court, without a jury, at sentencing or at a separate hearing for that purpose before sentencing. The existence of a prior conviction may be established by any evidence relevant for that purpose, including, but not limited to, 1 or more of the following:

(a) A copy of the judgment of conviction.

(b) A transcript of a prior trial, plea-taking, or sentencing.

(c) Information contained in a presentence report.

(d) The defendant's statement.

(4) If the sentence for a conviction under this section is enhanced by 1 or more prior convictions, those prior convictions shall not be used to further enhance the sentence for the conviction under section 10, 11, or 12 of chapter IX of the code of criminal procedure, 1927 PA 175, MCL 769.10, 769.11, and 769.12.

**History:** Add. 1996, Act 328, Eff. Apr. 1, 1997;—Am. 1998, Act 311, Eff. Jan. 1, 1999;—Am. 2002, Act 672, Eff. Mar. 31, 2003.