

HB 1873 -- VEHICLE HIJACKING (Gregory)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Standing Committee on Judiciary

This bill creates the offense of vehicle hijacking, which is committed when an individual knowingly uses or threatens the use of physical force upon another individual to seize or attempt to seize possession or control of a vehicle. This offense is punished as a class B felony unless one of the aggravating circumstances listed in the bill was present during the commission of the offense, in which case it is punished as a class A felony.

Additionally, the definition of dangerous felony is modified to include the offense of vehicle hijacking when punished as a class A felony.

This bill specifies that, beginning January 1, 2021, if a person is charged with the offense of vehicle hijacking and is between the ages of 12 and 18, a mandatory hearing will be conducted to determine whether the case shall proceed in a juvenile court or the offender will be certified as an adult. As of the effective date of the bill and prior to January 1, 2021, if a person is charged with the offense of vehicle hijacking and is between the ages of 12 and 17, a mandatory hearing will be conducted to determine whether the case shall proceed in juvenile court or the offender will be certified as an adult.