



ANNETTE C. DELGADILLO
Mayor

PEGGY LEMONS
Vice Mayor

ISABEL AGUAYO
Councilmember

BRENDA OLMOS
Councilmember

VILMA CUELLAR STALLINGS
Councilmember

May 13, 2024

The Honorable Reggie Jones-Sawyer
Member, California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite #6320
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Juan Alanis
Member, California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite #4640
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Aisha Wahab
Member, California State Senate
1021 O Street, Suite #7330
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: ORGANIZED RETAIL THEFT LEGISLATION

Dear Members:

One of the City of Paramount's top priorities is to address crime and retail theft, organized retail theft, and shoplifting. Our city is pleased that both houses of the Legislature have made this issue a priority in 2024. As such, the City of Paramount would like to identify a few bills that we believe help to address the critical issue of organized retail theft.

As you may know, retail theft continues to be a problem in nearly all California communities. For example, commercial burglary is at the highest rate since 2008. In fact, according to the PPIC, commercial burglary increased statewide since 2020, especially in larger counties with an increase of 13% among 14 of the 15 largest counties. To address rising theft, city officials need additional tools to reduce crime and improve the safety of their neighborhoods.

Specifically, regarding organized retail theft, there are a handful of bills that seek changes to existing law to help address the increase in smash and grab robberies and other organized efforts that continue to happen at an alarming rate in our communities statewide.

Dedicated to providing fiscally responsible services that maintain a vibrant community.

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Therefore, we support the following bills:

AB 1802 (Jones-Sawyer) Crimes: Organized Theft
(As Amended on 4/1/2024)

AB 1972 (Alanis) Regional Property Crime Task Force
(As Introduced on 4/11/2024)

SB 982 (Wahab) Crimes: Organized theft
(As Amended on 4/1/2024)

These bills confront the issue of organized retail theft by requiring the Regional Property Crimes Task Force assist railroad police in combatting the organized theft of merchandise stolen from a merchant's cargo, and eliminating the sunset date for organized retail theft.

For these reasons, the City of Paramount supports AB 1802 (Jones-Sawyer), AB 1972 (Alanis) and SB 982 (Wahab). Please feel free to contact City Manager John Moreno at (562) 220-2225, if you have any questions. On behalf of the City of Paramount, we thank you for your time and consideration.

CITY OF PARAMOUNT



Annette C. Delgadillo
Mayor

cc. Honorable State Senator Lena Gonzalez, 33rd District
Honorable Assembly Speaker Emeritus Anthony Rendon, 62nd District
Kristine Guerrero, Regional Public Affairs Manager, League of California Cities
Jorge Morales, Legislative and Governmental Affairs Consultant, California
Contract Cities Association