



Senate Majority Office

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Senate Democrats Crack Down on Organized Retail Theft

Senate Bill 340 will increase penalties for those convicted of organized retail theft

SALEM, Ore - Today the Oregon State Senate passed [Senate Bill 340](#) which significantly increases penalties for organized retail theft. Community safety is a top priority for Oregon Senate Democrats' [2023 Oregon Works agenda](#).

[The US Chamber of Commerce reports that 57% of retailers have reported a rise in organized retail crime in the past year](#). These thefts often involve networks of criminals who target high-value merchandise, causing significant financial losses for retailers, increasing costs for consumers and an unsafe work environment for retail workers.

“Organized retail theft is a threat to consumers, employees, and local businesses,” said **Senator Floyd Prozanski (D - Eugene)**. “The passage of Senate Bill 340 is a strong statement that we will not tolerate organized retail theft in our state and will work to ensure safe communities for all.”

Under SB 340, individuals convicted of organized retail theft will face harsher penalties. The new law will also amend and strengthen current statutes to allow law enforcement and prosecutors greater flexibility to detect, deter, and hold accountable those who commit organized retail theft. Finally, it will create more accountability for people who threaten retail workers while committing theft.

SB 340 was developed from the Organized Retail Crime Task Force, which is made up of industry and labor stakeholders negatively impacted by organized retail crime.

SB 340 now moves to the House of Representatives for consideration.

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