

Combating Organized Retail Crime Act of 2023 Grassley, Cortez Masto

SECTION-BY-SECTION SUMMARY

§ 2 - Findings

- Recognizes organized retail crime costs retails on average \$720,000 per \$1,000,000,000 sold, a 50% increase since 2015.
- Recognizes organized retail crime not only raises costs to American consumers, but threatens the safety of Americans as the groups become more brazen and violent.
- Finds it necessary for Congress to act to ensure law enforcement has the tools necessary to combat these criminal organizations

§ 3 – Amendments to Title 18

- Allows for federal judges to order criminal forfeiture after convictions of organized retail theft related crimes
- Strengthens federal money laundering statutes allowing investigators and prosecutors to target the illegal proceeds of organized retail crime groups
- Ensures that members of organized retail crime groups who use the internet or other forms of interstate or foreign commerce in furtherance of their illicit activities are investigated and prosecuted
- Allows for federal prosecutors to utilize an aggregate total value of \$5,000 or more over a 12-month period as a predicate for charging the transportation, or sale or receipt of stolen goods

§ 4 – Establishment of a Center to Combat Organized Retail Crime

- Directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish the Center to Combat Organized Retail Crime headed by Homeland Security Investigations
- The Center shall include representatives from HSI, FBI, CBP, USSS, US Postal Inspection Service, ATF and the DEA Includes representatives from the retail industry within the Center
- Requires DHS and DOJ to provide reporting to Congress on ORC activity and enforcement
- Require DOJ and DHS to review grant programs available to state, local and Tribal law enforcement agencies

SUPPORTERS

- National Retail Federation
- Retail Industry Leaders Association
- U.S. Chamber of Commerce
- ICSC
- Peace Officers Research Association of California
- Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association
- PASS (Protect America's Small Sellers) Coalition
- Sergeants Benevolent Association NYPD