



# City of Bowie

15901 Fred Robinson Way  
Bowie, Maryland 20716

January 31, 2024

Judicial Proceedings Committee  
Maryland State Senate  
c/o Senator William C. Smith, Jr.  
2 East Miller Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Subject: Letter of Support for Senate Bill 0100 - Addressing Organized Retail Theft

Dear Senator Smith,

I am writing on behalf of the City Council of the City of Bowie to express our strong support for Senate Bill 0100, a vital piece of legislation aimed at addressing organized retail theft in Maryland. The bill provides essential provisions that enable the prosecution of multiple thefts committed by the same person in multiple counties under one scheme or continuing course of conduct and establishes measures to combat organized retail theft.

Organized retail theft poses a significant threat to businesses and communities across the state. Senate Bill 0100 takes a proactive stance by allowing for the joining and prosecution of multiple thefts committed by the same person in different counties, streamlining legal procedures and ensuring a more effective response to these criminal activities.

The provision prohibiting a series of thefts from retail merchants over a certain period, with an aggregate value exceeding a specified amount, demonstrates a commitment to curbing organized retail theft and protecting businesses from substantial losses. By addressing the issue at its core, this legislation contributes to a safer and more secure retail environment for businesses and consumers alike.

We also appreciate the provision in the bill that ensures a conviction under this Act merges with another conviction for sentencing purposes, streamlining legal processes and ensuring consistency in the application of justice.

As representatives of the City of Bowie, we believe that Senate Bill 0100 aligns with our commitment to promoting a safe and thriving business community. We urge the members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee to support this legislation and contribute to the efforts to combat organized retail theft in our state.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter, and we appreciate your continued efforts to address issues that impact the safety and prosperity of our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Timothy J. Adams". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Bowie City Council  
Timothy J. Adams  
Mayor