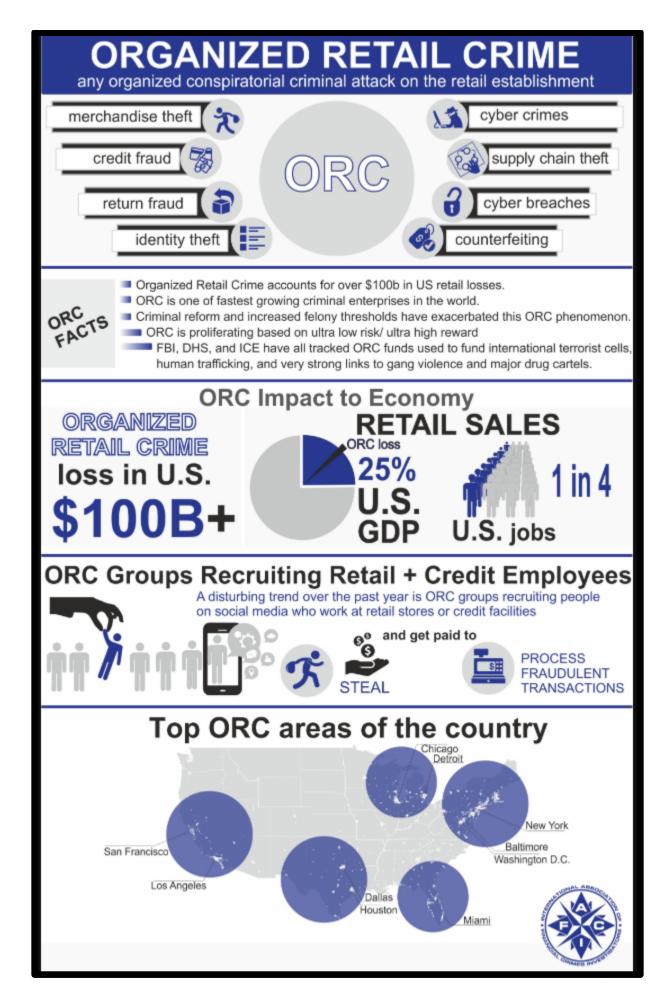
Md Retailers Association_fav_sb598 Uploaded by: locklair, cailey

Position: FAV



Cassilly_FAV_SB598
Uploaded by: Senator Cassilly, Senator Cassilly

Position: FAV

ROBERT G. CASSILLY
Legislative District 34
Harford County

Judicial Proceedings Committee

Joint Committee on Administrative, Executive, and Legislative Review

Joint Committee on Federal Relations



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

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February 19, 2020

RE: Senate Bill 598 - Criminal Law - Organized Retail Theft

Dear Committee Members:

I request your support for SB 598. This bill defines "organized retail theft" and places the burden on the State to prove that an act of theft is "organized retail theft". If the Court determines that a theft is an organized retail theft then it shall be reported as such to the Criminal Justice Information System Central Repository (CJIS). Such a report allows multiple thefts committed by the same person in multiple counties, under one scheme or continuing course of conduct, to be aggregated and prosecuted as part of an overall scheme in any county in which any of the thefts occurred.

Sincerely,

Senator Bob Cassilly

MSP_FAV_SB 598 Uploaded by: Williams, Tom

Position: FAV



State of Maryland Department of State Police

Government Affairs Section Annapolis Office (410) 260-6100

POSITION ON PROPOSED LEGISLATION

DATE: February 19, 2020

BILL NUMBER: Senate Bill 598 Position: Support

BILL TITLE: Criminal Law - Organized Retail Theft

REVIEW AND ANALYSIS:

This legislation seeks to establish that multiple thefts committed by the same person in multiple counties or one scheme or continued course of conduct may be aggregated and prosecuted in any effected county. This legislation also seeks enhanced penalties for person with previous theft conviction who commit theft again.

In recent years the instance of organized retail crime rings in Maryland has increased. There are organized retail crime rings that commit thefts throughout many Maryland counties and the surrounding states. The rings will work in groups. They not only commit thefts from retail establishments, but also commit credit card fraud, identity theft and merchandise return theft.

In just one case investigated by the Department in Southern Maryland, the investigators discovered the ring was operating in Maryland and Virginia and identified losses in excess of \$100,000. There are other cases in jurisdictions all over Maryland that show the same pattern.

For these reasons, the Department of State Police urges the Committee to give Senate Bill 598 a favorable report.