

The Honorable Floyd Prozanski, Chair Senate Committee on Judiciary Oregon State Capitol, Room S-413 900 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support: SB 318: Organized Retail Theft

Dear Senator Prozanski:

On behalf of the Chamber of Progress, a tech industry coalition promoting technology's progressive future, I write to urge you to support SB 318.

Chamber of Progress supports public policies at the federal and state level that seek to build a fairer, more inclusive country in which all Americans benefit from technological leaps.

We commend the author for advancing legislation to address organized retail crime, which not only harms communities and retail centers, but also threatens the safety of consumers and retail workers. By studying approaches to combat organized retail theft, there is opportunity to establish thoughtful programs to increase the safety and well being of Washington consumers, workers, and businesses at risk.

Many states have developed task forces focused on studying and providing state legislatures with actionable steps to address organized retail theft. As a result, states have found ways to enhance communication between municipalities, law enforcement, brick-and-mortar retailers, as well as online marketplaces in efforts to reduce organized crime

We are committed to working on this issue to advance our shared goals and support legislation that safeguards consumers, workers, and businesses combating organized retail theft.

Respectfully,

Tepring Piquado, PhD

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Senior Director of Government Relations, Western US Chamber of Progress