



CALIFORNIANS AGAINST RETAIL & RESIDENTIAL THEFT

Californians Against Retail And Residential Theft Issue Statement Following The Legislature's Failure To Address Retail Theft

PRESS RELEASE
Tuesday, May 23, 2023

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SACRAMENTO, CA – Californians Against Retail and Residential Theft (CARRT) issued the following statement after the California State Legislature failed to move forward any bills relating to retail theft.

"Crime is on the rise, and the Legislature is doing nothing about it. Over the past two months, several bills have been authored by Democrats and Republicans addressing retail theft. Every one of these bills died without a vote on the floor."

"These are not victimless crimes. Retail theft puts business owners', customers', and employees' personal safety at risk."

"When will the Legislature realize that theft is growing faster than sales."

Among the bills that failed to clear committees:

AB 75 – Hoover. Shoplifting: increased penalties. This bill would reinstate a provision of law that was repealed by Proposition 47 that provides that a person convicted three or more times of theft may be subject to a felony on the following theft conviction.

AB 335 - Alanis. Proposition 47: repeal. This bill initially proposed to repeal the changes and additions made by Proposition 47. The bill was amended significantly and now calls for a study of retail thefts by the Little Hoover Commission.

AB 329 – Ta. Theft: jurisdiction. This bill would expand organized retail theft to include merchandise stolen from a merchant's cargo valued over \$950.

AB 1708 - Muratsuchi. Theft. This Democrat-authored bill with seven co-authors would redefine theft by increasing penalties for theft of a firearm or vehicle, identity theft, or credit card theft. It also increases the penalties for someone who commits three or more petty thefts or shoplifting.

SB 316 – Niello. Shoplifting: increased penalties for prior crimes. This bill would amend Proposition 47 by reestablishing that a person who commits a petty theft and has three or more previous petty or grand theft convictions can be charged with a misdemeanor or a felony with a maximum sentence of three years.

Californians Against Retail and Residential Theft (CARRT) is a broad-based coalition calling for needed changes in California's criminal justice system. CARRT's coalition members include local Chambers of Commerce, California Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce, California Autobody Association, California Business Properties Association, California Business Roundtable, California Chamber of Commerce, California Delivery Association, California Grocers Association, California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce, California Small Business Association and National Federation of Independent Businesses. To get more information on CARRT, please visit our website at www.carrt.org.

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