

1 ENGROSSED SENATE
2 BILL NO. 674

By: Treat of the Senate

3 and

4 McCall of the House

5
6 An Act relating to crime and punishment; creating the
7 Oklahoma Organized Retail Crime Task Force; providing
8 sunset date; providing purpose; providing for
9 membership; stating quorum; allowing election of
10 chairperson and vice chairperson; requiring
11 appointments and first meeting within certain
12 timeframe; disallowing compensation; providing staff;
13 authorizing certain consultations; requiring certain
14 report; providing report requirements; providing for
15 codification; and declaring an emergency.

16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

17 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
18 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2200 of Title 21, unless there
19 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

20 A. There is hereby created the Oklahoma Organized Retail Crime
21 Task Force until December 31, 2024. The purpose of the task force
22 shall be to provide the Legislature and the Governor with
23 information on organized retail crime and the advantages and
24 drawbacks of instituting various countermeasures to counter losses
from retail theft in the state.

B. The task force shall consist of thirteen (13) members as
follows:

1 1. Three members, appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall
2 be an individual who represents state or local law enforcement;

3 2. Two members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the
4 Senate;

5 3. Two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of
6 Representatives;

7 4. One member appointed by the District Attorneys Council;

8 5. One member appointed by the Oklahoma Retail Merchants
9 Association;

10 6. One member appointed by the State Chamber;

11 7. One member appointed by the Oklahoma Sheriffs' Association;

12 8. One member appointed by the Oklahoma Association of Chiefs
13 of Police; and

14 9. One member appointed by the Attorney General.

15 C. Quorum for official business of the task force shall be
16 seven members. A chairperson and a vice chairperson shall be
17 elected by a majority vote of the members of the task force.

18 D. Appointments to the task force shall be made by the
19 appointing authority no later than sixty (60) days after the
20 effective date of this act. Appointed members shall, to the
21 greatest extent practicable, have by education or experience,
22 knowledge of organized retail theft. The chair shall hold the first
23 meeting of the task force no later than ninety (90) days after the
24 effective date of this act. Any vacancies in the membership of the

1 task force shall be filled in the same manner provided for in the
2 initial appointment.

3 E. The members of the task force shall receive no compensation
4 but shall receive travel reimbursement for necessary travel expenses
5 incurred in the performance of their duties in accordance with the
6 State Travel Reimbursement Act. The task force shall be staffed by
7 the Senate.

8 F. The task force may consult with any organization, government
9 entity, or person in the development of its report required pursuant
10 to the provisions of subsection G of this section.

11 G. On or before December 15, 2024, the task force shall
12 electronically submit to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of
13 the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the
14 chairs of the House and Senate committees that oversee public
15 safety, a report containing, but not limited to, the following
16 information based on available data:

17 1. A review of laws and regulations on organized retail crime
18 used by other states, the federal government, and foreign countries
19 to regulate the marketplace;

20 2. The use of organized retail theft's impact on state and
21 local tax receipts;

22 3. The need for interagency coordination of public education
23 and outreach and prevention programs for business owners; and
24

1 4. Legislative and regulatory recommendations, if any, to
2 increase transparency and security, enhance consumer protections,
3 prevent organized retail theft, and to address the long-term
4 economic impact related to the prevalence of organized retail crime.

5 SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
6 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
7 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
8 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

9 Passed the Senate the 7th day of March, 2023.

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11 _____
12 Presiding Officer of the Senate

13 Passed the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____,
14 2023.

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16 _____
17 Presiding Officer of the House
18 of Representatives