



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 277		DATE: 1/22/2025	
COMMITTEE: Crime and Public Safety			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCAT		PHONE NUMBER: 314-440-9000	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY: O' FALLON		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63366
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: physical		SUBMIT DATE: 1/22/2025 11:59 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I am in full Support of this Bill. Something needs to be done, as Organized Groups are causing havoc on Missouri Businesses, which is be being paid by Missouri Consumers. This creates and Felony and is good-sense Legislation. I have Support this Bill in 2024 and 2022. this Bill needs to be passed by both the House and Senate and sent to the Governor Desk for his Signature! See my further Testimony.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: BRAD JONES		PHONE NUMBER:	
REPRESENTING: NFIB		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 307 EAST HIGH			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/22/2025 12:00 AM	

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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: CADE TREMAIN		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-3511	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 428 E. CAPITOL AVENUE			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/22/2025 12:00 AM	

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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: DARRELL LEE MOORE		PHONE NUMBER: 573-751-0619	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS; MISSOURI OFFICE OF PROSECUTION SERVICES		TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 899, 200 MADISON STREET, SUITE 1060			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL: Darrell.Moore@prosecutors.mo.gov	ATTENDANCE: physical	SUBMIT DATE: 1/21/2025 6:30 PM	
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Missouri's prosecutors support tougher penalties on those committing retail theft, especially when organized to profit from targeting businesses. Our suggestion to the sponsor is to incorporate the crime of organized retail theft within the current stealing statute, 570.030, instead of creating a new section.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: DAVID SAMUEL OVERFELT		PHONE NUMBER: 573-230-6006	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI RETAILERS ASSOCIATION; MISSOURI GROCERS ASSOCIATION; MISSOURI TIRE INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION; ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES OF MISSOURI		TITLE: PRESIDENT	
ADDRESS: 618 E CAPITOL, PO 1336			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL: dave@moretailers.com	ATTENDANCE: physical	SUBMIT DATE: 1/22/2025 9:18 AM	
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Retail Theft (Shoplifting) Statistics Last updated: October 25, 2024
Missouri Retail Theft Statistics
Retailers in Missouri lost \$1.602 billion in revenue to theft in 2022. Missouri retailers lost \$332.92 in sales per capita in 2022. Return fraud cost Missouri retailers an estimated \$1.740 billion in sales revenue, bringing the total lost retail sales up to \$3.343 billion. The State of Missouri lost out on \$67.8 million in retail sales tax dollars due to theft. Missouri sales tax dollars lost to return fraud totaled \$73.5 million, bringing the total lost sales tax to \$141 million. Shoplifting Incidents Jump 93% Since Pre-COVID, According to New Industry Study- NRF December 17, 2024
WASHINGTON – Retailers reported a 93% increase in the average number of shoplifting incidents per year in 2023 versus 2019 and a 90% increase in dollar loss due to shoplifting over the same time period, according to the National Retail Federation. Conducted in partnership with the Loss Prevention Research Council and sponsored by Sensormatic Solutions, "The Impact of Retail Theft & Violence 2024" examines how theft and violence have evolved since before COVID and how retailers are combating today's retail crime landscape. According to the study, retailers surveyed experienced an average of 177 shoplifting incidents per day in 2023. However, that number can reach over 1,000 depending on the retail sector. Violence remains a major concern for the retail industry. About three-quarters (73%) of those surveyed say that shoplifters are exhibiting more violence and aggression than they were a year ago, and 91% say that shoplifters are exhibiting more violence and aggression compared with 2019. Still, retailers continue to take measures to keep those within their retail environments safe. Compared with their last fiscal year, 71% of retailers have increased their budgets to support employee training related to workplace violence. Multi-person theft incidents are also on the rise, with 62% saying that two to three individuals working together to steal multiple items is more of a concern than it was a year ago. Those incidents that are conducted in a coordinated effort under organized retail crime (ORC) groups continue to permeate the industry. Seventy-six percent say shoplifting connected to ORC is more of a concern than it was one year ago. Furthermore, retailers with the capability to track such incidents specifically saw a 57% increase on average in ORC incidents from 2022 to 2023.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: JORGEN SCHLEMEIER		PHONE NUMBER: 573-230-4239	
REPRESENTING: WALMART, GAMBLE & SCHLEMEIER,		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE: MO	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/22/2025 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MATTHEW REDMOND		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: SCHNUCK MARKETS, INC.		TITLE: DIRECTOR OF SECURITY	
ADDRESS: 11420 LACKLAND			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63146
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/22/2025 12:00 AM	

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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SCOTT MCMASTERS		PHONE NUMBER: 417-262-4518	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 611 SW MONTANA RIDGE DR			
CITY: GRAIN VALLEY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 64029
EMAIL: scotty.mcm93@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: submissionOnly	SUBMIT DATE: 1/22/2025 12:32 PM	
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This is a reactionary measure that has not enough details for the public. Without proper evidence backing this is a problem, a law should not be made on a possibility versus an issue backed with verifiable facts.