



October 20, 2022

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Republican Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Republican Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

**RE: Support Combatting Organized Retail Crime Act (S. 5046/H.R. 9177)**

Dear Majority Leader Schumer, Republican Leader McConnell, Speaker Pelosi and Republican Leader McCarthy,

On behalf of the National Retail Federation, I am writing to you today encouraging you to co-sponsor the Combatting Organized Retail Crime Act (S. 5046/H.R. 9177) as introduced in the House and Senate. This bipartisan-bicameral legislation is critical in the ongoing fight against organized retail crime (ORC), which continues to threaten retailers, their employees and their customers across the country. NRF strongly supports the bills and encourages Congress to act quickly to pass them.

NRF, the world's largest retail trade association, passionately advocates for the people, brands, policies and ideas that help retail thrive. NRF empowers the industry that powers the economy. Retail is the nation's largest private-sector employer, contributing \$3.9 trillion to annual GDP and supporting one in four U.S. jobs — 52 million working Americans. For over a century, NRF has been a voice for every retailer and every retail job, educating, inspiring and communicating the powerful impact retail has on local communities and global economies.

Organized retail crime (ORC) is a serious, multibillion-dollar threat to the retail industry. It not only disrupts store operations but puts customers and employees at risk with the violence associated with these brazen crimes. According to [NRF's 2022 National Retail Security Survey](#), retailers reported a 26.5% increase in ORC, on average. Even more alarming, the vast majority (81.2%) said the violence and aggression associated with ORC increased in the past year.

The Combatting Organized Retail Crime Act would recognize the threat of organized retail crime to Americans. It will establish a new Organized Retail Crime Coordination Center to align

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counter-ORC activities nationally and internationally by developing a national-level ORC intelligence perspective, facilitating information sharing and cross-agency investigations, and serving as a center of expertise for training and technical assistance. This coordination is a critical step for retailers to effectively combat these criminal activities.

NRF will be recognizing co-sponsors of the Combating Organized Retail Crime Act on Fight Retail Crime Day on October 26, 2022. Co-sponsors will be named as a [Congressional Retail Crime Fighter](#) and given a digital “I’m a retail crime fighter” badge to share their commitment to protecting retailers and the customers and communities they serve with their constituents on social media.

We encourage Members to co-sponsor this important legislation. Thank you for your attention to this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David French". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "D" and a cursive "F".

David French  
Senior Vice President  
Government Relations

cc: Members of Congress