An Act

ENROLLED SENATE
BILL NO. 674

By: Treat of the Senate

and

McCall of the House

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

SUBJECT: Oklahoma Organized Retail Crime Task Force

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

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

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

B. The task force shall consist of fifteen (15) members as follows:

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

2. Two members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma State Senate;

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

4. One member appointed by the District Attorneys Council;

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

6. One member appointed by the State Chamber;

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

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

9. One member appointed by the Attorney General;

10. One member from the Convenience Distributors of Oklahoma; and

11. One member from the Oklahoma Grocers Association.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Passed the Senate the 23rd day of May, 2023.

Brent Howard
Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the 26th day of April, 2023.

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Received by the Office of the Governor this 23rd

day of May, 20 23, at 2:36 o'clock p. M.

By: Turner Curry

Approved by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma this 6th

day of June, 20 23, at 3:46 o'clock p. M.

Governor of the State of Oklahoma

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this 6th

day of June, 20 23, at 5:16 o'clock P. M.

By: Brian Bingman