



August 12, 2024

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1802 (Jones-Sawyer) Crimes: Organized Theft.
REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE *(As Amended on June 29, 2024)*

Dear Governor Newsom,

The League of California Cities (Cal Cities) respectfully requests your **signature** on AB 1802 (Jones-Sawyer) which would repeal the sunset date for the crime of organize retail theft and indefinitely extend its use, as well as extend the operation of the Regional Property Crimes Task Force.

As you may know, organized retail theft has become a serious threat to small and large businesses in our communities. Commercial burglary is at the highest rate since 2008. In fact, according to the PPIC, commercial burglary increased statewide since 2020, especially in larger counties with an increase of 13% among 14 of the 15 largest counties. Rising theft is impacting every corner of California, and city officials need additional tools to reduce crime and improve the safety of their neighborhoods.

AB 1802 helps to address the issue of organized retail theft by repealing the upcoming sunset date and ensuring that the statute will remain as a tool for law enforcement to address these organized and brazen thefts. Further, this bill would also extend indefinitely the operation of the Regional Property Crimes Task Force operated by the California Highway Patrol and Department of Justice.

AB 1802 is part of a package of bills that will make important changes to retail theft. Repealing the sunset date of organized retail theft offense is one of the priorities Cal Cities has identified that need to be addressed before real progress can be made, however all of the proposed changes in the retail theft legislative package are needed in order to comprehensively address this issue.

For these reasons, Cal Cities **urges your signature** on AB 1802 (Jones-Sawyer). If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me at jvoorhis@calcities.org.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jolena Voorhis".

Jolena Voorhis
Legislative Affairs, Lobbyist

cc: Assembly Member Reginald Jones-Sawyer
Jith Meganathan, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Governor's Office