

October 26, 2023

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

The Honorable Mike Johnson Speaker of the House United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Mitch McConnell Minority Leader United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries Minority Leader United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

RE: Support the Combating Organized Retail Crime Act of 2023 (S. 140/H.R. 895)

Dear Leaders Schumer and McConnell, Speaker Johnson and Leader Jeffries:

On behalf of the National Retail Federation, our members, our employees and our customers, the undersigned companies write to support the Combating Organized Retail Crime Act of 2023 (S. 140/H.R. 895). We believe this legislation will help counter rising organized retail crime, which costs retailers billions in stolen merchandise and threatens the safety of retail workers and customers.

Organized retail criminal (ORC) activity has continued to increase across the U.S., particularly over the past couple of years. In <u>NRF's 2023 National Retail Security Survey</u>, more than two-thirds (67%) of respondents said they were seeing even more violence and aggression from ORC perpetrators compared with a year ago. Overall retail shrink, which ORC is a component of, totaled over \$110 billion in 2022. This not only has an economic impact on retailers, but also a broader effect in terms of the safety of store employees and customers. We continue to see daily media reports of violent retail offenders.

Retail loss prevention teams and state and local law enforcement have active efforts to investigate ORC groups and build cases but are frequently hampered by a lack of visibility into the scope of retail crime groups' broader activities, nationally and internationally. The Combating Organized Retail Crime Act of 2023 would help address these issues by creating greater coordination and providing increased resources for law enforcement at all levels.

We believe this legislation would help counter rising organized retail crime, which threatens the safety of retail associates and customers, degrades the shopping experience and costs retailers tens of billions of dollars in stolen merchandise. We urge you to co-sponsor S. 140/H.R. 895 and work to ensure its passage.

NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION 1101 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 1200 Washington, DC 20005 www.nrf.com National Retail Federation October 26, 2023 Page | 2

Sincerely,

List of Retail Companies

2nd & Charles 36 Lyn Refuel Station Ahold Delhaize / Retail Business Services Albertsons Companies Amazon American Eagle Outfitters Inc. American Sale At Home B&W Hardware Backcountry.com Bamblu Belk, Inc. Best Buy Co., Inc. Bloomingdale's Books-A-Million Inc. Buffalo Exchange, Limited Inc. Capri Holdings, Limited **Castle Megastore** Completely Kentucky David's Bridal Inc. Destination XL Group, Inc. Dick's Sporting Goods Inc. **District Heroines Dominion Jewelers** Five Below Floor & Decor Holdings, Inc Gap Inc. H&M Harbor Freight Tools Helzberg Diamonds Hibbett Inc. Hudson's Bay Company IKEA North America Services, LLC It's Nola/Brooklyn Granola J.C. Penney Company, Inc. James Avery Jewelry Kohl's Corporation

Kroger Co. lululemon Athletica Inc. Luxottica North America LVMH Inc. Macy's, Inc. Mast General Store, Inc. Maurices Incorporated Microsoft Corporation Murdoch's Ranch & Home Supply Nahdi Medical Co. NCR Voyix Nordstrom, Inc. Perry Ellis International, Inc. PetSmart, Inc. Qurate Retail Group Ralph Lauren Corporation Saks Off 5th Sephora USA Signet Jewelers Spencer Gifts LLC Spirit Halloween Superstores, LLC Staples US Retail Sun & Ski **Sunrise Boutique** Tapestry, Inc. **Target Corporation** The Children's Place, Inc. The Kindship TJX Companies, Inc. Total Wine & More Tractor Supply Company Ulta Beauty Victoria's Secret & Co. Walgreens Walmart Weaver's. Inc

CC: Members of the Senate Members of the U.S. House of Representatives