

Fifty-fifth Legislature
First Regular Session

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AMENDMENTS TO H.B. 2383
(Reference to printed bill)

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert:

2 "Section 1. Title 41, chapter 1, article 5, Arizona Revised
3 Statutes, is amended by adding section 41-200, to read:

4 41-200. Organized retail theft task force; duties;
5 intergovernmental agreements; annual report; task
6 force termination

7 A. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SHALL ESTABLISH AN ORGANIZED RETAIL THEFT
8 TASK FORCE TO COMBAT CRIMES THAT RELATE TO THE STEALING, EMBEZZLING OR
9 OBTAINING BY FRAUD, FALSE PRETENSES OR OTHER ILLEGAL MEANS OF RETAIL
10 MERCHANDISE FOR THE PURPOSE OF RESELLING THE ITEMS OR FOR REENTERING THE
11 ITEMS INTO COMMERCE. THE TASK FORCE SHALL INVESTIGATE ONLY OFFENSES OR
12 VIOLATIONS THAT ARE UNDER THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S JURISDICTION PURSUANT TO
13 SECTION 21-422.

14 B. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SHALL INVITE FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL LAW
15 ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TASK FORCE TO MORE EFFECTIVELY
16 USE THEIR COMBINED SKILLS, EXPERTISE AND RESOURCES. THE TASK FORCE SHALL
17 REVIEW, INVESTIGATE AND PROSECUTE APPROPRIATE CASES BROUGHT BEFORE THE TASK
18 FORCE BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES OR AUTHORIZED LOSS PREVENTION PERSONNEL,
19 OR BOTH. A MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATURE MAY SUBMIT THE NAME OF A CERTIFIED
20 PEACE OFFICER TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND RECOMMEND THE OFFICER'S PLACEMENT
21 ON THE TASK FORCE.

C. MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE SHALL DO ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

1. INVESTIGATE, APPREHEND AND PROSECUTE INDIVIDUALS OR ENTITIES THAT PARTICIPATE IN THE PURCHASE, SALE OR DISTRIBUTION OF STOLEN PROPERTY FROM A RETAIL ESTABLISHMENT OR THROUGH THE USE OF AN INTERNET OR NETWORK SITE.

2. TARGET INDIVIDUALS OR ENTITIES THAT COMMIT THEFT AND OTHER PROPERTY CRIMES FOR FINANCIAL GAIN.

D. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SHALL USE MONIES APPROPRIATED TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR THE TASK FORCE TO ENTER INTO ONE OR MORE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND WITH ANY SIMILAR ORGANIZED RETAIL THEFT TASK FORCE PROGRAM THAT COORDINATES A NATIONAL NETWORK OF COORDINATED TASK FORCES THAT ASSIST FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL AND TRIBAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES IN INVESTIGATIONS, FORENSIC EXAMINATIONS AND PROSECUTIONS RELATED TO ORGANIZED RETAIL THEFT.

E. THE TASK FORCE SHALL CONSIST OF AT LEAST ONE FULL-TIME PROSECUTOR, PARALEGAL AND SUPPORT STAFF PERSON AND AT LEAST TWO INVESTIGATORS AND FOUR PEACE OFFICERS. THE TASK FORCE SHALL HAVE A REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING TO REVIEW CASES AND PROVIDE UPDATES ON ONGOING CASES TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE.

F. ON OR BEFORE JULY 1 OF EACH YEAR, THE TASK FORCE SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE ON THE TASK FORCE'S ACTIVITIES AND ANY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION RELATING TO CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR CRIMES THAT HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON THIS STATE'S ECONOMY.

G. THE TASK FORCE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION ENDS ON JULY 1, 2029 PURSUANT TO SECTION 41-3103.

Sec. 2. Appropriation; attorney general; organized retail theft task force; personnel

The sum of \$1,500,000 is appropriated from the state general fund in fiscal year 2021-2022 to the attorney general for operational expenses of the organized retail theft task force established pursuant to section 41-200, Arizona Revised Statutes, as added by this act, and for hiring one attorney, one paralegal, two investigators and one support person within

House Amendments to H.B. 2383

1 the office of the attorney general and four peace officers who are assigned
2 to the task force to focus specifically on investigating and prosecuting
3 organized retail crime."

4 Amend title to conform

And, as so amended, it do pass

REGINA E. COBB
CHAIRMAN

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