

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS31246 / H0598

In recent years, Idaho has seen an increase in the number of thieves who do not just steal from retail stores, they do so in concert with others. These ‘organized retail thieves’ work quickly to steal as much as possible often before leaving the state, to avoid detection and detainment.

This bill would create a new category of theft called “organized retail theft” and would provide law enforcement and the retail community a requested tool to more accurately target and hold accountable these individuals. Currently, the law enforcement and retail communities must rely on combinations of charges including commercial burglary and grand theft.

## FISCAL NOTE

This legislation causes no additional expenditure of funds at the state or local level of government, nor does it cause an increase or decrease in revenue for state or local government; therefore, this legislation has no fiscal impact. The law enforcement community already investigates and prosecutes these acts, and this bill would merely make their jobs more efficient possibly saving local law enforcement agencies money.

### Contact:

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**DISCLAIMER:** This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).