

SB 960 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary

Action Date: 03/11/25

Action: Do pass and requesting referral to Ways and Means.

Vote: 6-0-0-0

Yeas: 6 - Broadman, Gelser Blouin, Manning Jr, McLane, Prozanski, Thatcher

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: Revenue impact issued

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Meeting Dates: 3/4, 3/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

This measure appropriates \$10 million to the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, to fund the Organized Retail Theft Grant Program.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History and results of existing Organized Retail Theft Program
- Scope of economic losses from retail theft
- Sophistication of retail theft rings

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Senate Bill 900 (2023) created the Organized Retail Theft (ORT) Grant Program to lend financial assistance to local law enforcement agencies, the Oregon State Police, and community-based organizations in addressing and prosecuting organized retail theft, as defined in ORS 164.098.

The Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) administers the ORT program and prioritizes grants to agencies and organizations that demonstrate the following:

- Ability to address organized retail theft that places employees or the public at risk of injury.
- Ability to identify and address organized retail theft rings.
- Ability to identify and address individuals or groups who have committed or are at risk of committing organized retail theft.
- Evidence of collaboration with retailers or law enforcement agencies.
- Operations designed to have a regional or statewide beneficial effect.

Funds awarded under the ORT program must be spent on addressing and prosecuting organized retail theft.