



March 4th, 2026

Co-Chair Novotny, Co-Chair Moller and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce and our 6,300 member businesses across the state, we strongly support House File 2879, Representative Witte's legislation that would establish the Organized Retail and Supply Chain Crimes Advisory Board and a statewide coordinator within the Minnesota Department of Public Safety.

Organized retail and supply chain theft has escalated in recent years, disproportionately impacting Minnesota's businesses large and small, their employees, and the consumers they serve. Organized retail theft occurs regionally and increasingly across state lines, with theft rings operating in multiple states. Because these coordinated theft rings often transcend a single jurisdiction, the issue requires a more unified response. HF 2879 would create a standing advisory board with representation from law enforcement, prosecutors, retailers, supply chain partners and other stakeholders to develop best practices, coordinate multijurisdictional cooperation and improve communication among public safety and private sector partners statewide.

The bill also establishes a statewide coordinator tasked with facilitating enforcement collaboration, supporting training, and enhancing prevention and investigative protocols across Minnesota. This role is essential for ensuring a statewide response against organized retail theft and supply chain crimes.

Establishing this advisory board and statewide coordination structure will help reduce criminal activity, protect Minnesota jobs, safeguard communities and strengthen economic growth. For these reasons, we respectfully urge your support for HF 2879.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Cotter
Director, Health Care and Commerce Policy
Minnesota Chamber of Commerce