



PROPERTY CRIME & RETAIL THEFT CRACKDOWN

Stronger Enforcement. Serious Penalties. Steep Consequences.

This is the most significant legislation to crack down on property crime in modern California history. These new, stronger laws provide robust tools to hold criminals accountable for smash-and-grab robberies, property crime, retail theft, and auto burglaries.



Cracking down on theft and sale of stolen items

Creates **stricter penalties** for individuals involved in retail and property theft, mandates sentencing enhancements for large-scale operations, and creates new crimes — imposing **enhanced felony charges**.



Increasing enforcement and prosecution

Bolsters existing laws to ensure police can arrest retail theft suspects with probable cause — even if they didn't witness a crime in progress.



Updating felony threshold counts

Permits the aggregation of stolen goods, enabling prosecutors to combine the value of multiple stolen items — even across different victims and counties — to help **meet the threshold for felony grand theft**.



Targeting smash-and-grabs

Creates new **penalties for criminals** who damage businesses and property in the course of theft.



Fighting car break-ins and auto theft

Adds and increases penalties for possession of items stolen from a vehicle with intent to resell. **Boosts prosecution of automotive property thefts**.



Eliminating organized retail theft sunset provisions

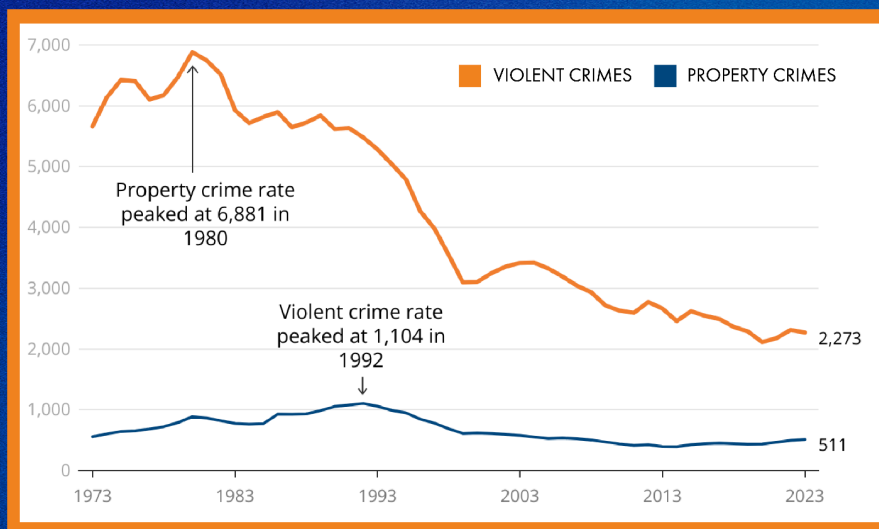
Maintains important **organized retail crime statutes and task forces** used by law enforcement — which would have expired on January 1, 2026.

What these new laws do NOT do.

This landmark package advances California's ongoing efforts to reduce crime and provide law enforcement and prosecutors with the tools they need to continue to end cycles of crime and hold criminals, including retail and property thieves, accountable.

The laws **won't** revert California back to failed war-on-drug policies of the previous century, when the state's crime rates were at record highs. These new laws allow prosecutors and law enforcement to hold criminals accountable without costing California taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars more each year — and without diverting important resources from schools, first responders, and addressing the homelessness crisis.

CRIME RATES *in* CALIFORNIA REMAIN WELL BELOW the PEAKS of the **PAST FIVE DECADES**



VIOLENT AND PROPERTY CRIMES PER 100,000 CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS

SOURCE: CALIFORNIA BUDGET & POLICY CENTER
WITH DATA FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



The details.

AGGREGATION

- ☑ **AB 2943.** Allows aggregation of the value of property stolen from different victims or in different counties in order to reach the felony grand theft threshold of \$950.
- ☑ **SB 905.** Allows aggregation of the value of property stolen from vehicles over multiple acts, in order to charge a person with automotive property theft for resale.

SHOPLIFTING AND PETTY THEFT

- ☑ **AB 2943.** Allows an officer to arrest a person for shoplifting with probable cause, even if the act did not take place in the officer's presence.
- ☑ **AB 2943.** Doubles probation for shoplifting and for petty theft from one year to two years. Allows defendants under 25 to be referred to rehabilitative programs.
- ☑ **AB 3209.** Allows a court to issue a "retail theft restraining order" prohibiting a person convicted of organized retail theft, shoplifting, theft, vandalism, or assault of a retail employee from entering the establishment for up to two years.

CRIME OF ORGANIZED RETAIL THEFT

- ☑ **AB 2943.** Creates a new crime punishable by up to three years in jail, for possessing more than \$950 of stolen goods with intent to sell, exchange, or return the goods. Facilitates prosecution by eliminating the need for DAs to prove that a defendant knew the goods were stolen.
- ☑ **AB 1802.** Eliminates the sunset date for the crime of organized retail theft and the sunset date for the highly-successful regional property crimes task force.
- ☑ **AB 2943.** Extends, until January 1, 2031, a law that prevents suspects of organized retail theft from being released with just a signed promise to appear in court.
- ☑ **SB 1416.** Mandates sentencing enhancements for large-scale resale of property.
- ☑ **AB 1972.** Adds cargo theft to the list of property crimes that regional property crimes task forces may address.

INCREASED PENALTIES FOR SMASH & GRABS

- ☑ **AB 1960.** Establishes mandatory sentencing enhancements for taking, damaging, or destroying property over \$50K during the commission of a felony. *(Signature forthcoming)*
- ☑ **SB 1242.** Mandates higher penalties on retail thieves who create fires.

VEHICLE THEFT & ONLINE SALES

- ☑ **SB 905.** Removes the locked door loophole for automotive property thefts.
- ☑ **SB 1144.** Requires online platforms to collect information about all "high-volume third-party sellers," in order to combat fencing of stolen goods.

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

- ☑ **AB 1779.** Permits the consolidation of theft charges and associated offenses occurring in different counties into a single trial.
- ☑ **AB 2943.** Protects retailers from being cited or fined for repeatedly reporting retail theft.