Bill Summary

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature

Bill No.: HB 1592
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Author: Sen. Weaver
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Bill Analysis

HB 1592 defines organized retail crime when 2 or more of the circumstances outlined in the measure occur. Such circumstances include:

- 1) The property taken is intended for resale;
- 2) Such property is taken by two or more persons acting jointly;
- 3) The persons taking the property do so while possessing tools of theft including, but not limited to, tag cutters, foil-lined bags, weapons, or other means of evading detection;
- 4) The persons taking the property attempt to exit through fire escapes, employee exits, or other non-public means of entry or exit;
- 5) The persons taking such property remove, destroy, deactivate, or knowingly evade any component of an anti-shoplifting or inventory control device to prevent the activation of that device or to facilitate another person in committing retail crime;
- 6) A person receives, purchases, or possesses retail merchandise for sale or resale knowing or believing the retail merchandise was stolen from a retail merchant;
- 7) The persons use a getaway driver or the motor vehicle of another person or a rented or stolen motor vehicle when committing retail crime; or
- 8) The persons use a paper, fraudulent, altered, or obstructed license plate, use a license plate meant for a different vehicle, or do not have any license plate.

The measure provides that a person convicted of such a crime shall be subject to a term of imprisonment not to exceed 5 years in the Department of Corrections or 1 year in the county jail and/or a maximum fine of \$1,000.00 if the total amount of stolen goods does not exceed \$15,000.00. The maximum term of imprisonment is increased to 8 years if the total amount of goods stolen exceeds \$15,000.00. The measure also authorizes the Office of the Attorney General to employ persons to serve as Oklahoma Organized Retail Crime Task Force officers.

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