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April 25, 2024

The Honorable Kevin McCarty
Chair, Assembly Committee on Public Safety
1020 N. Street, Room 6011
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Aisha Wahab
Chair, Senate Public Safety Committee
1020 N. Street, Room 545
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Resellers and Fencing of Stolen Property Legislation

Dear Assemblymember McCarty and Senator Wahab,

The City of Brentwood is pleased to support Assembly Bill 1845 (Alanis) Crimes: Grant Program for Identifying, Apprehending, and Prosecuting Resale of Stolen Property, Senate Bill 1144 (Skinner) Marketplaces: Online Market Places; Senate Bill 1381 (McGuire) Property Crimes: Regional Property Crimes Task Force, Senate Bill 1416 (Newman) Sentencing Enhancements: Sale, Exchange or Return of Stolen Property.

Retail theft is a continual problem not only in the City of Brentwood and Contra Costa County, but also in all California communities. Rising Theft is affecting every corner of California, and city officials need additional tools to reduce crime and improve the quality of life and safety in their neighborhoods.

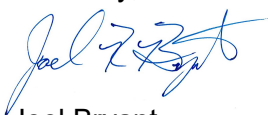
These bills propose several methods of addressing resale of stolen property and fencing locations that facilitate this illegal sale of stolen property. These methods range from providing funding and task forces for law enforcement to identify and crack down on these fencing operations, to creating sentencing enhancements for individuals convicted of selling property acquired through theft.

The rising rate of theft offenses such as commercial burglary necessitate viable resale operations of those stolen goods such as fencing location or the use of online third-party marketplaces. Reducing the ease with which stolen items can be resold through these secondary operations is a critical step in providing any comprehensive solution to the issue of retail theft.

While these individual bills are important in order to continue to make progress on retail theft, these bills are only one part of a comprehensive solution that need to include prevention, enforcement, and supervision. Addressing fencing operations to resell stolen property is a way forward that can help solve this growing problem, however additional changes are needed in order to make our communities safer.

For these reasons, the City of Brentwood supports the bills listed above.

Sincerely,



Joel Bryant,
Mayor
City of Brentwood

cc: Honorable Steven M. Glazer, Senator: senator.glazer@senate.ca.gov
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