



VIRGINIA RETAIL MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION  
THE VOICE OF FREE ENTERPRISE SINCE 1905

# News

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## **Scott Crime Bill Will Help Law Enforcement Deter Theft**

**Richmond, VA** – Legislation introduced today by Congressman Bobby Scott (D-VA) will aid law enforcement in its effort to reduce the growing problem of organized retail crime (ORC), said the Virginia Retail Merchant Association (VRMA).

“The Virginia Retail Merchant Association commends Congressman Scott for his commitment bringing the criminals involved in this activity to justice,” said VRMA President Laurie Peterson Aldrich.

ORC involves sophisticated crime rings that move from store to store stealing large quantities of goods. The goods are then sold through flea markets, swap meets, pawn shops and, increasingly, on Internet auction sites. Profits obtained through the commission of this crime are often funneled back into larger criminal enterprises and used to support other illegal activities.

This bill, known as the E-Fencing Enforcement Act of 2009, tackles the selling of stolen goods on-line, the bill would address ORC by imposing reasonable duties on on-line marketplaces to collect information that law enforcement can in turn use to prosecute those that fence good on their websites. The bill requires that on-line marketplaces halt the sale of goods on websites if the goods are determined to be stolen.

VRMA looks forward to working with Congressman Scott to ensure this legislation is passed and that ORC criminals are brought to justice.

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*The Virginia Retail Merchants Association was established in 1905. VRMA is a not-for-profit trade association representing retailers to educate, inform, and serve as a resource. VRMA and its retail member associations represent more than 5,400 retailers and other associated businesses throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia.*

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