

April 10, 2025

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Catherine Cortez Masto
309 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable David Joyce
2065 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Susie Lee
365 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Support for the Combating Organized Retail Crime Act

Dear Senator Grassley, Senator Cortez Masto, Congressman Joyce, and Congresswoman Lee:

On behalf of the Intermodal Association of North America (IANA), I am writing to express our strong support for the bipartisan Combating Organized Retail Crime Act.

As the only transportation trade association representing the combined interests of intermodal freight providers and customers, IANA represents more than 1,000 corporate members, including railroads, ocean carriers, ports, intermodal truckers and over-the-road highway carriers, intermodal marketing and logistic companies, and suppliers to the industry. IANA's associate (non-voting) members include shippers (defined as the beneficial owners of the freight to be shipped), academic institutions, government entities, and non-profit trade associations.

In recent years, instances of organized cargo theft and fraud have increased at an alarming rate. Analysis by CargoNet found that reported cargo theft incidents rose by 27 percent between 2023 and 2024. During the same period, the average value per theft increased to over \$202,000. Given that cargo theft is widely underreported, these occurrences are likely even more prevalent than the data suggests.

The effects of supply chain crime ripple across the U.S. economy. These crimes impose significant financial burdens resulting from cargo losses, damage to equipment, increased insurance costs, and delivery delays, which ultimately raise consumer prices. Moreover, increased criminal activity risks the safety of hard-working supply chain workers, including truck drivers, rail operators, warehouse workers, and others who support the movement of intermodal freight.

While cargo theft is not a new concept, thieves have become far more sophisticated. The interstate nature of goods movement makes it particularly challenging to effectively track supply chain theft within existing law enforcement procedures and resources. A coordinated response at the federal level is needed to address this growing threat. The Combating Organized Retail Crime Act offers commonsense solutions to identify and deter organized crime throughout the supply chain by enhancing legal frameworks, improving enforcement capabilities, and fostering collaboration across relevant federal, state, and local agencies. The legislation will strengthen the U.S. economy by enhancing supply chain efficiency, penalizing dangerous crime groups, and protecting American workers and consumers.

We applaud your leadership and would be pleased to serve as a resource on this important issue. I can be reached at areinke@intermodal.org or 301-982-3400.

Sincerely,



Anne Reinke
President and CEO
Intermodal Association of North America

CC: Combating Organized Retail Crime Act Co-Sponsors