

UCAN

United Chamber Advocacy Network

*El Dorado County Joint Chamber Commission; Elk Grove Chamber Commerce; Folsom Chamber of Commerce;
Rancho Cordova Chamber of Commerce; Roseville Area Chamber of Commerce*

Where You Can Make a Difference for Business in California!

April 12, 2018

Hon. Reginald Byron Jones-Sawyer, Sr.
Chair, Committee on Public Safety
California State Assembly
Legislative Office Building
1020 N Street, Room 111
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 3011 (Chau) re: Theft aggregation

Dear Chair Jones-Sawyer:

On behalf of the chambers of commerce that comprise the United Chamber Advocacy Network of California (UCAN) and their nearly 4800 combined members, I am writing to express our support for Assembly Bill 3011 which would allow for the aggregation of petty theft crimes, when committed as part of one plan.

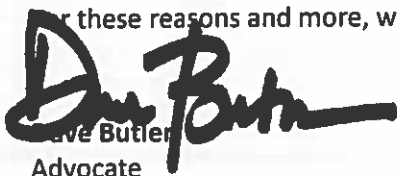
In a recent joint membership survey, the UCAN chambers asked "what is the top issue impacting your business' bottom line?" After the issues of taxes and regulations, over one third of respondents cited "California's overall business climate" as a barrier to their success.

In recent discussions, our members have identified the increased amount of crime associated with the diminution of petty theft as a result of the passage of Proposition 47, is adversely impacting retail businesses in particular and the state's business climate as a whole.

Time and again we hear of individual incidents of "calculated theft" of less than \$950 in merchandise, as lawbreakers know they will only face a misdemeanor penalty if and when they are caught, even though the incident is part of larger criminal activity.

This common sense legislation codifies existing case law clarifying that theft may be charged as grand theft if the real property, etc. exceeds \$950 and is part of a larger plan.

For these reasons and more, we respectfully urge the committee extend an "aye" vote on AB 3011.



Dave Butler
Advocate

United Chamber Advocacy Network

cc. Assemblymember Ed Chau
Members, Assembly Committee on Public Safety
Assemblymembers Ken Cooley, Frank Bigelow, Jim Cooper, Kevin Kiley

United Chamber Advocacy Network
One Capitol Mall, Suite 800 Sacramento, CA 95814 916.444.3568