DISTRICT OFFICE: 113 S. 8TH ST. P.O. BOX 1211 INDEPENDENCE, KANSAS 67301 (620) 714-1881 State of Kansas Senate Vice President

ROOM 341-E, STATE CAPITOL TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612 (785) 296-7361 E-Mail: jeff.king@senate.ks.gov



JEFF KING SENATOR, FIFTEENTH DISTRICT

March 9, 2015

Chairman Barker, members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today in support of SB 11. SB 11 would enact the Scrap Metal Theft Reduction Act.

Scrap metal theft has been on the rise in Kansas in recent years. This bill would strengthen scrap metal dealer registration and scrap metal sales requirements to thwart illegal sales while protecting the commercial freedom of these law-abiding small businesses. SB 11 would require the Attorney General to establish and maintain a database of scrap metal sales. Information from this database would be used to track scrap metal theft and efforts to sell that stolen metal.

SB 11 would create the crime of aggravated criminal damage to property for scrap metal theft. This provision would enhance criminal penalties for scrap metal theft, ensuring that scrap metal thieves serve a minimum of 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ years behind bars for second and subsequent theft convictions.

For these reasons and many others, I would ask for your support of SB 11.

Respectfully submitted,

Senator Jeff King

District 15