

Hello, I am Anthony Bowden. Myself, operating as a brick and mortar business within North Dakota, and the company I work for Pacific Steel and Recycling, take the current law and theft very seriously. I support legislation that discourages theft and cracks down on illegitimate buyers of scrap metal and other commodities.

There is a very real problem with illegitimate “core recyclers” buying catalytic converters and other items with cash, ignoring current laws and hurting legitimate businesses.

Following my company’s policy, I currently group our catalytic converter purchases with “non-ferrous” metals and keep driver’s license information and purchase history of all purchases. In my understanding, SB2242 could inadvertently create a loophole for thieves to evade the established state scrap metal theft laws. “Core Recyclers” could potentially claim that they are a separate type of dealer and not be subject to the record keeping requirements, and current more strict penalties in place in the existing scrap metal statutes.

Me, my company, and the other ISRI member companies in ND think there is a way to achieve the goals of SB2242 by incorporating catalytic converters specifically into existing scrap metal theft laws. This will then also prevent “Core Recyclers” from evading existing scrap metal theft laws and ensure that any buyer or seller of a catalytic converter must abide by the same laws. I feel that these changes would strengthen the current legislation and help to continue to curb the theft we’re seeing.

I support SB2242 as amended.

Thank you