
HOUSE BILL 2570

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2012 Regular Session

By Representatives Goodman, Hurst, and Ross

Read first time 01/17/12. Referred to Committee on Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness.

1 AN ACT Relating to metal property theft; creating a new section;
2 and providing an expiration date.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The task force on commercial and
5 nonferrous metal property theft is established. For purposes of this
6 section, "commercial metal property" and "nonferrous metal property"
7 have the same meanings as defined in RCW 19.290.010.

8 (2) The purpose of the task force is to formulate suggestions for
9 state policy regarding regulation of commercial and nonferrous metal
10 property theft.

11 (3) The task force shall consist of the following members:

12 (a) A representative of a scrap metal business;

13 (b) A scrap metal supplier located in Washington who is appointed
14 by and a member of the institute of scrap recycling industries, or its
15 successor organization and whose primary business location is located
16 in a city with a minimum population more than five hundred thousand;

17 (c) A scrap metal supplier located in Washington who is appointed
18 by and a member of the institute of scrap recycling industries, or its

1 successor organization and whose primary business location is located
2 in a city with a maximum population less than fifty thousand;

3 (d) An investor-owned utility, as defined in RCW 19.29A.010;

4 (e) A consumer-owned utility, as defined in RCW 19.29A.010;

5 (f) A municipally owned utility;

6 (g) A representative of the Washington department of
7 transportation;

8 (h) A representative of the Washington state prosecutors
9 association;

10 (i) A representative of the Washington state patrol;

11 (j) A representative from a city with a population of less than
12 five hundred thousand, appointed by the Washington association of
13 cities;

14 (k) A representative from a city with a population of more than
15 five hundred thousand, appointed by the Washington association of
16 cities;

17 (l) A representative of a law enforcement agency, appointed by the
18 Washington council of police and sheriffs;

19 (m) A representative from the Washington association of sheriffs
20 and police chiefs; and

21 (n) A representative from a county appointed by the Washington
22 state association of counties.

23 (4) The task force shall elect a chair and organize itself in a
24 manner, and adopt rules of procedure that it determines are most
25 conducive to the timely completion of its charge.

26 (5) In conducting its study, the task force shall consider, at a
27 minimum, the following issues:

28 (a) Penalties, both criminal and civil, for theft of commercial and
29 nonferrous metal property including, but not limited to, issues such as
30 categorization of crimes, trespass, organized commercial metal property
31 theft, and aggregation of crimes;

32 (b) Valuation in the criminal prosecution of theft of commercial
33 and nonferrous metal property, where the actual damages of the theft
34 may greatly exceed the value of the stolen property;

35 (c) The role of local governments in policing and prosecuting theft
36 of commercial and nonferrous property;

37 (d) Restrictions on cash purchases of commercial and nonferrous
38 metal property;

- 1 (e) Private rights of action to prosecute theft of commercial and
2 nonferrous metal property;
- 3 (f) Registration or licensing of all scrap metal businesses;
- 4 (g) A no-buy list for commercial and nonferrous metal purchases;
- 5 (h) Use and effectiveness of a scrap theft alert system, such as
6 scraptheftalert.com, offered as a no fee service by the institute of
7 scrap recycling industries; and
- 8 (i) Such other items the task force deems necessary.
- 9 (6) The task force shall meet at least quarterly.
- 10 (7) Members must seek reimbursement for travel and other membership
11 expenses through their respective agencies or organizations.
- 12 (8) The task force shall report its preliminary findings and
13 recommendations for legislative action to the legislature by December
14 31, 2012. The task force shall continue to communicate and collaborate
15 regarding a policy plan through December 31, 2014.
- 16 (9) This section expires December 31, 2014.

--- END ---