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OUR REFERENCE KK-MK

February 15, 2008

LATE TESTIMONY

The Honorable Tommy Waters, Chair
and Members
Committee on Judiciary
House of Representatives
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Waters and Members:

Subject: House Bill No. 2589, H.D. 1, Relating to Scrap Metal

I am Major Kurt Kendro of District 5 (Kalihi) of the Honolulu Police Department, City and County of Honolulu. I had testified in support of this bill at the committee hearing held on Monday, January 28, 2008.

The Honolulu Police Department supports House Bill No. 2589, H.D. 1, Relating to Scrap Metal. This bill would require that scrap dealers pay sellers of scrap copper only by check issued no sooner than five days after the purchase.

Many copper thieves are looking for instant payment. Requiring payment by check to the seller may help to deter copper theft. This payment method is being used in other states across the nation.

Since my previous testimony, the Attorney General, the Honolulu Police Department, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, and representatives from Schnitzer Steel Hawaii Corporation and Okuda Metals have agreed that the following wording would be more encompassing:

- (g) If the scrap dealer purchases any copper or non-ferrous metal, the scrap dealer shall pay the seller only by check, issued no sooner than five days after the purchase, which shall be mailed to the seller. If the scrap dealer is purchasing any other scrap ferrous metals, the dealer shall pay the seller only by check.

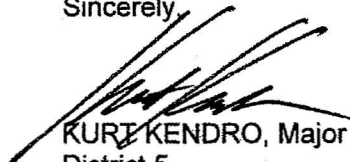
This wording would allow legitimate sellers of copper and other non-ferrous metals for recycling to be compensated in a timely manner and provide a deterrent to persons who are stealing copper and other non-ferrous metals in an attempt to obtain instant payment.

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We urge your support in passing House Bill No. 2589, H.D. 1, with the recommended change.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



KURT KENDRO, Major
District 5

APPROVED:



For: BOISSE P. CORREA
Chief of Police