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**Testimony to the Senate Judiciary Committee
In Support of HB2470: Scrap Metal Dealers
March 13, 2012**

Chairman Owens and Committee Members,

This bill was drafted as a trailer bill to HB2312 passed last year. During the conference committee process we continued to work with the scrap metal dealers to address their remaining concerns. During that process we agreed to delete certain language. However, one of the strikeouts did not get removed in the actual conference committee report. During the interim we continued to attempt to address this with the scrap metal dealers. During these conversations we agreed to support a bill in the 2012 session to strike the language we had previously agreed to remove from HB2312. That amendment to the existing statute is located on page 2, lines 20 and 21 of HB2470.

Subsequent to the introduction of this bill, the Attorney General issued an opinion number 2012-4 on January 24, 2012. The opinion was in response to a request from John Gatz, city attorney for the city of Colby. In that opinion the Attorney General opines that the language in HB2312 will require a renewal fee in the amount of the initial fee, which is set between \$100 and \$400, plus the renewal fee, which is set between \$25 and \$50. Clearly that was not the intent. The amendment made by the House committee corrects this issue. That amendment is found on page 4, lines 6-7.

We respectfully ask you to recommend HB2470 as amended by the House committee favorably for passage. This bill may also be appropriate for the consent calendar.

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