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OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL**

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**Office of the Attorney General
Written Proponent Testimony for HB 2349
House Committee on Judiciary
February 10, 2025**

Chairwoman Humphries and Members of the Committee,

The Office of the Attorney General supports HB 2349, which makes revisions to the Scrap Metal Theft Reduction Act. We were consulted during the development of these changes and agree with the changes allowing local law enforcement officers to investigate violations of the Scrap Metal Theft Reduction Act.

Furthermore, the Office of the Attorney General is in agreement with the provision that allows local law enforcement agencies to submit reports to our office for the purpose of maintaining records of law enforcement actions related to the Scrap Metal Theft Reduction Act.

We also do not object to the addition of misdemeanor criminal penalties for violations of K.S.A. 50-6,110, K.S.A. 50-6,111, and K.S.A. 50-6,112. These changes strengthen the deterrents against non-compliance with the Act.

The proposed revisions to HB 2349 complement our ongoing efforts to ensure effective enforcement and provide additional tools to combat scrap metal theft, benefiting both law enforcement agencies and the public.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Bingesser
Administrative Counsel
Office of the Attorney General