

Scrap Metal Dealer Registration

HB 2312 requires registration of scrap metal dealers. On or after January 1, 2012, in order to purchase regulated scrap metal, a business must be registered for each place of business. The bill requires a business to submit its application for registration to the city in which the business is located, or if it is not located within the corporate limits of a city, to the board of county commissioners in the county in which it is located. Pursuant to the bill, the initial registration fee would be not less than \$100 nor more than \$400. Registration would be valid for ten years. The fee for renewing registration is not less than \$25 nor more than \$50. Purchasing scrap metal without being registered is a class A, nonperson misdemeanor.

Prior to granting registration to a scrap metal dealer, a board of county commissioners is required to give written notice of the filing of an application for registration to the clerk of the township where the applicant's business is located within ten days of registration or renewal. The governing body of a city and the board of county commissioners also must provide written notice of a filing to the sheriff, chief of police, or director of all law enforcement agencies in the county within ten days of registration or renewal.

The bill outlines the requirements for filing an application for registration, the factors prohibiting registration, and circumstances allowing or requiring the board of county commissioners or the city's governing board to suspend for up to thirty days or revoke registration.

"Value" is defined under the bill as the value of the property or the cost to restore the site of the theft of regulated scrap metal to its condition at the time immediately prior to the theft, whichever is greater. Further, scrap metal dealers are required to pay by check or use a system that photographs or videotapes the payment recipient. Finally, the bill modifies the list of scrap metal property for which the seller must provide proof of authority to sell.