

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Bob Buster

SUBMITTAL DATE: Feb. 5, 2008

SUBJECT: Support for Senate Bill 447, an act to amend Section 21606 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to junk dealers

RECOMMENDED MOTION:


1. Endorse Resolution 2008-14, a Resolution of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors in support of SB 447, an act to amend Section 21606 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to junk dealers, as currently amended;
2. Write a letter signed by the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors to Senator Maldonado in support of Senate Bill 447, An act to amend Section 21606 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to junk dealers, as currently amended; and
3. Direct staff to continue to have our county lobbyists monitor and actively support Senate Bill 447 as currently amended, on behalf of the county and immediately report to the County Executive Office on any changes as it proceeds through the legislature.

BACKGROUND: Metal theft throughout Riverside County, the State of California, and the nation continues to be a significant problem that has affected the farming community, public utilities and the construction industry. In some cases, metal theft has cause regional power outages when highly energized power service centers have been vandalized. Our own county owned and operated municipal facilities have not been exempt from metal theft, as several departments including the county library have been victimized.

In 2007, the Committee to Deter the Theft of Aluminum Brass and Copper submitted a report to the Board of Supervisors outlining challenges and recommendations. As part of that report a smaller advisory group made up of the Executive Office, Sheriff's Department, District Attorney's Office, and Code Enforcement Department was formed to continue monitoring activities related to metal theft, with the Sheriff's Department acting as the lead department to provide updates to the Board on a routine basis.

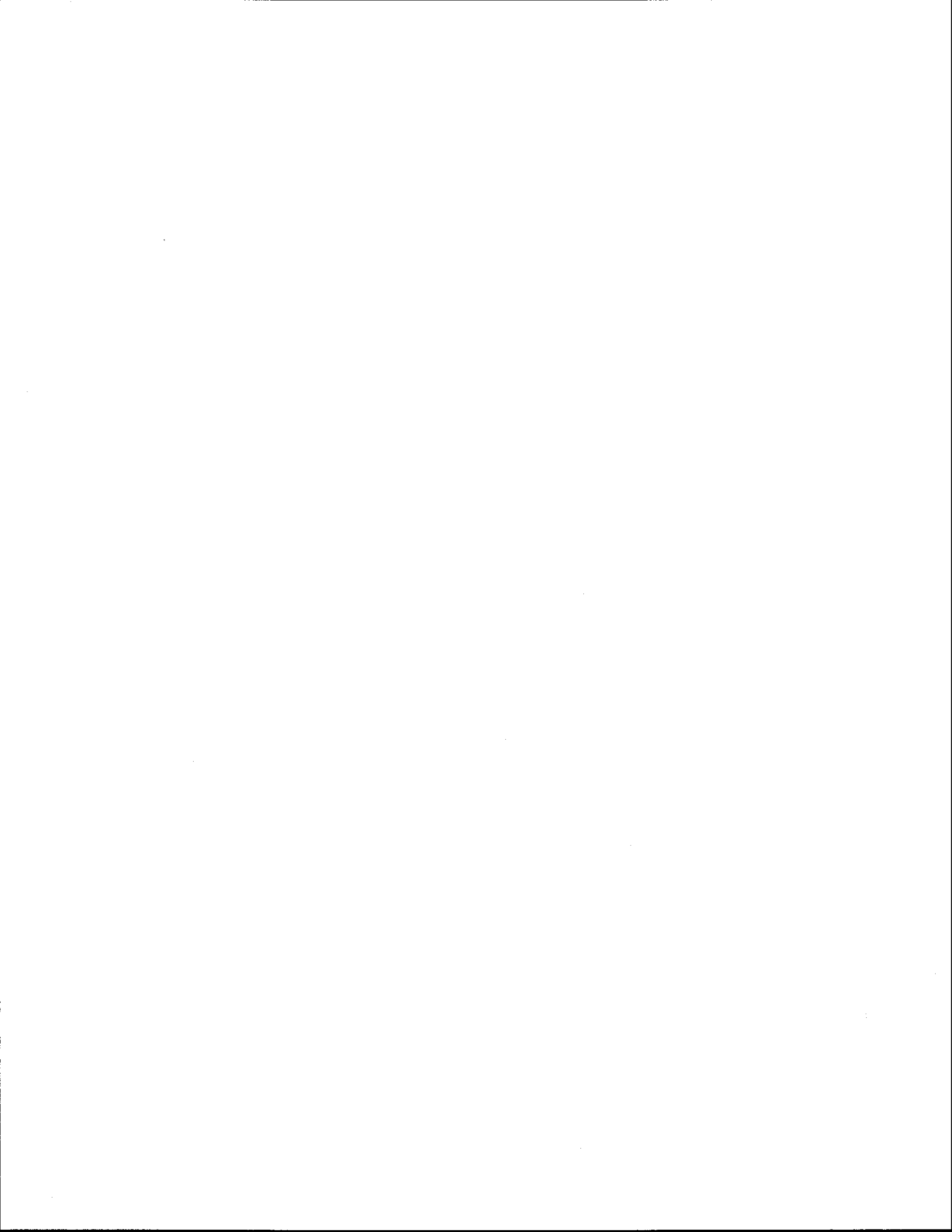
Senate Bill 447 provides many of the necessary tools that law enforcement personnel needs to stop scrap metal theft. Similar to current law that requires pawnshops to transmit seller information to the Department of Justice; this bill would require junk dealers to transmit seller specific information to help law enforcement agencies apprehend scrap metal thieves.

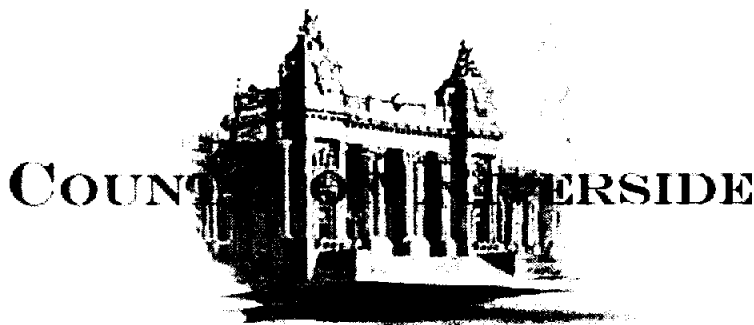
Senate Bill 447 is currently supported by the following organizations: California State Sheriff's Association, California Farm Bureau Federation, California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association, California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealer Association, AT&T, Sempra Energy, Tulare County Board of Supervisors, Tulare County District Attorney, Western Electrical Contractors, San Bernardino County Sheriff, and Liberty Mutual.


Bob Buster, 1st Dist.

Department Recommendation: Consent Policy
Per Executive Office: Consent Policy

3.48





Board of Supervisors

District 1	Bob Buster 909-955-1010
District 2	John F. Tavaglione 909-955-1020
District 3	Jeff Stone 909-955-1030
District 4	Roy Wilson 909-955-1040
District 5	Marion Ashley 909-955-1050

Honorable Abel Maldonado, Senator
Senate District 15
State Capitol, Room 4082
Sacramento CA 95814

February 5, 2008

Subject: Senate Bill 447, an act to amend Section 21606 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to junk dealers

Dear Senator Maldonado,

The County of Riverside has been monitoring Assembly Bill 447 and other legislation related to the metal theft problem and would like to take this opportunity to support SB 447.

Perpetrators of these crimes have been able to avoid prosecution because they work below the regulatory threshold. We have numerous examples where air conditioning units were stolen from the rooftops of the elderly, ball fields in community parks stripped of electrical wiring, commercial buildings and residential developments stripped of copper wiring and piping. Local government is not exempt from metal theft as several municipal owned buildings have been victimized, including our own county library.

Regionally, our farming interests, and public utilities continue to be affected by this on-going crime spree. Recently, public health and safety was compromised when a scrap metal vandal was electrocuted in his attempt to steal grounding wire from an energized power station that caused a power outage affecting several cities and unincorporated portions of Riverside County.

Strict rules and regulations are necessary to thwart this ever-increasing crime and Senate Bill 447, as currently amended will help law enforcement agencies to effectively curtail the ability of vandals who profit from this crime.

As Chairman of the County Board of Supervisors and on behalf of my fellow Board members and the citizens of Riverside County, we support Senate Bill 447, an act to amend Section 2160 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to junk dealers, as currently amended.

Sincerely;

Roy Wilson, Chairman
Supervisor, 4th District
Riverside County Board of Supervisor

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-114

A RESOLUTION OF THE RIVERSIDE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 447, MALDONALDO, AN ACT TO AMMEND SECTION 21606 OF THE BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE, RELATED TO JUNK DEALERS.

WHEREAS, Metal theft throughout Riverside County, the State of California, and the nation continues to be a significant problem that has affected the farming community, utilities and the construction industry;

WHEREAS, In some cases, metal theft has cause regional power outages when highly energized power service centers have been vandalized;

WHEREAS, county owned and operated municipal facilities have not been exempt from metal theft, as several departments including the county library have been victimized;

WHEREAS, perpetrators of these crimes have been able to avoid prosecution because they work below the regulatory threshold;

WHEREAS, public health and safety were compromised when a scrap metal vandal was killed in his attempt to steal grounding wire from a energized electrical power station causing a power outage, that last for several hours, in numerous cities and unincorporated portions of Riverside County;

WHEREAS, strict rules and regulations are necessary to thwart this ever-increasing crime and Senate Bill 447, as currently amended will help law enforcement agencies to effectively curtail the ability of vandals who profit from this crime.

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NOW THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors for the County of Riverside, in regular secession on February 5, 2008, do hereby support Senate Bill 447, an act to amend Section 21606 of the Business and Professions Code, related to junk dealers, as currently amended.

Roy Wilson, Fourth District
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

Bob Buster, Supervisor
First District

John Tavaglione, Supervisor
Second District

Jeff Stone, Supervisor
Third District

Marion Ashley, Supervisor
Fifth District