



Adopting Key Measures to Reduce Metal Theft

AECT Position: Support

SB 513 by Taylor

Key Proposals

- SB 513 would require those selling regulated materials to a recycling center to sign a form stating they have not been previously convicted of stealing regulated materials.
- The bill would also eliminate cash payment for regulated materials, requires the mailing of a check for any sale over \$25, and requires the metal recycling entity to photograph or video the seller, among other regulations.

AECT Strongly Supports Efforts to Curb Metal Theft

- Metal theft has become a major problem for many Texas communities.
- The cost of repairing and replacing the stolen property is far greater than just the nominal value of the metal itself.
- If a metal theft causes a power outage, the loss is multiplied by the lost business of all of the affected customers.
- Injuries or fatalities caused by the unsafe conditions created by the theft add additional costs from medical treatment and civil lawsuits. Moreover, the unsafe conditions create a public safety hazard and dangerous working conditions for utility employees due to the extreme hazard of ungrounded high voltage equipment.
- Cash transactions related to metal theft may also create a loss of income for the state because unregistered businesses are not documenting the transactions.

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