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REPRESENTATIVE MIKE CHENAULT SPEAKER OF THE ALASKA STATE HOUSE

SPONSOR STATEMENT

HOUSE BILL 305: *“An Act repealing the requirement that a junk dealer or metal scrapper obtain a license.”*

House Bill 305 removes the statute, AS 08.60.010 that requires the Department of Revenue to issue an annual license to persons engaged in the business of junk dealer or metal scrapper.

Prior to statehood, in 1939, all duties associated with the issuance of junk dealers or metal scrappers had resided with the Territorial Department of Finance and later assumed by the Department of Revenue. According to Legislative Research, under Section 10 of the State Organization Act of 1959, the authority and functions performed by the Department of Taxation, The Commissioner of Taxation, the Department of Finance, the Director of Finance and the Treasurer were transferred to the Department of Revenue.

However, in another section, Section 14 of the same act, the Department of Commerce was given the responsibility to issue licenses for businesses not covered or otherwise provided for in the act.

According to Legislative Research, the duty for licensing junk dealers and metal scrappers was not assigned to, but performed by the Department of Commerce, because of the collection of fees or because it was overlooked.

The Legislative Research report that is included within your back-up materials provides the history and other information as it relates to licensing of junk dealers and metal scrappers within the Department of Revenue.