



March 18, 2014

Representative Bill Stoltze
Chairman, House Finance Committee
State Capitol, Room 515
Juneau, Alaska 99801

RE: CS for HB305

Dear Chairman Stoltze:

Over the years, the Alaska Railroad has been a victim of metal theft and we support legislative efforts to address and reduce metal theft in Alaska.

In a recent case, we were only able to track down the perpetrators of multiple thefts of Alaska Railroad property because we had them on video during the theft and they used the same truck to transport the stolen metal to a local scrap dealer that they had used to steal the metal. Thefts that occur in smaller amounts that can be taken out by hand or without a motorized vehicle are even harder for us to track. One sad fact about this kind of theft is that it can cost businesses tens of thousands of dollars to replace the stolen metal and the perpetrators stand to receive only a few hundred dollars for the value of the metal as scrap.

Requiring legitimate metal dealers to keep a sufficient amount of information along with increased enforcement by police will make it easier to prosecute those that are dealing in stolen products.

Thank you,

Bill O'Leary
President & CEO