



**KEYSTONE STATE  
RAILROAD ASSOCIATION**

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March 6, 2014

Amanda Rumsey, Esq  
Executive Director, House Consumer Affairs Committee  
Room 150 Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Ms. Rumsey:

On behalf of the Keystone State Railroad Association (KSRRA), I wanted to take this opportunity to express our organization's support of an amendment to treat railroad materials the same as other items included in the state's Scrap Metal Theft Prevention Act.

As you may be aware, KSRRA is comprised of all major freight rail carriers, short line railroads, non-operating railroad owners, and associated support industries that operate or do business in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. One of our association's priorities has been to raise public awareness about the severe problem our industry faces with scrap material theft and trespassing. While scrap material theft has been a major problem for railroads for some time, the recent expansion of rail lines that has occurred to meet the demands of the burgeoning Marcellus Shale industry has only exacerbated the problem. In fact, theft of rail material being used for construction of new rail lines is growing throughout the Pennsylvania and railroad owners are without necessary laws to discourage theft of rail material.

If enacted, this amendment would make Pennsylvania a national leader in the prevention of railroad scrap material across the Commonwealth and would go a long way towards addressing this economic and public safety problem. We support changes to state law that would permit only commercial entities, not individuals, to sell railroad materials to scrap yards and recycling facilities. As a result of this change, railroad owners and their contractors would be able to establish a commercial account at scrap yards and recycling facilities of their choosing to ensure a quick transaction for future transactions.

Thank you again for your thoughtful attention to this issue.

Very truly yours,

Kimberly B. Smith  
President  
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