

HB 1251 - DIGEST

(SUBSTITUTED FOR - SEE 1ST SUB)

Declares that: (1) Because the current exemption of transactions involving "metal junk" from the requirements of chapter 19.60 RCW has enabled the theft of stolen metal property, that exemption must be removed;

(2) Uniform interpretation and enforcement of the laws governing pawnbrokers and second-hand dealers can be facilitated through precise clarification of the current law, and such changes in the law should discourage those who steal metal properties from seeking the most lenient jurisdiction in which to sell their stolen property; and

(3) Provisions must be made to ensure the appropriate documentation of transactions to assist law enforcement agencies to identify, recover, and return stolen property to its owner and to ensure, as reasonably as possible, that pawnbrokers and second-hand dealers are less likely to be used as conduits for the liquidation and disposal of stolen metal property.