

News about Kentucky's Major Scrap Recycling Industry

State Leaders Comment on Impact of
Scrap Industry on the Economy



(Frankfort, July 30, 2014)

With a total economic impact of \$1.3 billion on Kentucky, top legislative leaders are expressing support for the scrap recycling industry across the state.

“Knowing this industry in my region of the state, eastern Kentucky, I appreciate the role scrap recyclers play in the cycle of manufacturing and industrial growth,” said Rep. Rocky Adkins, (D-Morehead).

Adkins, who is the House majority floor leader, added “these are huge numbers when you think about it. A billion dollar-plus industry is a valuable sector, and a very significant one as well.”

State Senator Alice Forgy Kerr (R-Lexington) noted the taxes paid as a result of scrap recycling in the state.

“People may miss the connection of scrap recycling to the finished products that result. The benefit to the natural environment along with the economic environment is crucial,” said Kerr, who chairs the Senate’s Economic Development Committee.

“You’re looking at a combined industry that is responsible for over a million dollars each week to government, and several thousand paychecks to families every two weeks,” Kerr added.

An economic review sponsored by the industry group ISRI, based in Washington, D.C., measured the scrap industry nationwide, state-by-state. Direct and indirect jobs in Kentucky resulting from scrap industry impact number 7436.

Additionally, the industry’s combined tax bill exceeds \$54 million annually. Most importantly, the industry creates \$1.3 billion each year in the Kentucky economy.

“We need to work closely with the industry,” Kerr added, “and look for ways to support the industry’s efficiency and progress.”

“From my background in business, seeing the scrap industry in action, and now seeing these new numbers, scrap recycling is an essential component in Kentucky’s long-term success,” Adkins said, “a priority for jobs creation.”

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