

News from Kentucky's Major Scrap Recycling Industry

Rep. Denny Butler to Pre-File New Law to Simplify Recycling of Old Cars and Trucks



(Frankfort, August 1, 2014)

Kentucky Rep. Denny Butler, D-Louisville, announced that he will pre-file legislation this month designed to simplify the recycling of older vehicles.

Some cars and trucks at the “end of useful life” have lost titles, or have titles that may have been stolen, and there are even cases where titles were never transferred or received.

Other southern states, most notably North Carolina and Georgia, have taken similar steps in recent years. These actions have removed barriers to recycling vehicles that are no longer usable.

Rep. Butler [introduced similar legislation in the 2014](#) General Assembly. He serves on the Transportation Committee in the House of Representatives. During summer and fall months the Transportation Committee of the House and Senate meet jointly.

“We will work to have a good discussion before the committee as soon as possible, ahead of the next legislative session, which starts in January,” Butler said, “paying attention to the success in other states. Tennessee has been considering changes as well.

“This is a sensible move, based on the many advantages of getting older cars and trucks recycled when no longer usable, which is good for communities, the economy and the environment,” Butler, a former Louisville Police detective said.

“These are goals that all legislators can support, once this is carefully reviewed with state agencies, related industries and law enforcement. Smart steps to support our major scrap recycling industry move Kentucky ahead.

“Over the summer the Kentucky Recycling Association has made strong points in favor of this change. From their advocacy effort we have more lawmakers who understand the need for improvement to the law and process, and already have a more concise, improved bill to propose,” Butler added.

“These are goals that all legislators can support as this is carefully reviewed with state agencies, related businesses, local leaders and law enforcement.”

Neal Coudarlot, president of the KRA board of directors, said that “Kentucky can make a positive advancement for recycling. Cars and trucks left abandoned in communities, or sitting idle when no longer drivable can be recycled more easily.”

Coudarlot is general manager of River Metals Recycling in Louisville. RMR is a multi-state recycling industry leader, a division of the Cincinnati-based David J. Joseph Company. “We appreciate the work of Rep. Butler, the committee chairs and legislators.”

“Rep. Denny Butler is a valuable spokesperson for jobs growth and our industry,” Coulardot added.

Bob Babbage, Babbage Cofounder, the advocacy firm for KRA, said that Kentucky has an excellent system for vehicle title management, but “this one area of the statutes, once improved, will make a big difference for citizens, law enforcement, and communities as well as the recycling process that industry depends on constantly.”

The scrap recycling industry in Kentucky has a \$1.3 billion value to the economy. There are 7,436 Kentuckians employed in varied positions from equipment operators to engineers, and truck drivers to administrative staff.

Combined local and state taxes paid by scrap recyclers amounts to \$54.6 million annually.

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