



CALIFORNIA

Sacramento, CA
916-448-9904
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The Honorable Thomas Umberg
Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee
1021 O Street, Room 3240
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: Senate Bill 404 (Caballero) – Hazardous materials: metal shredding facilities
Oppose Unless Amended**

Dear Senator Umberg and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

The National Federation of Independent Business, California's leading and largest small business advocacy organization serving more than 13,000 job creators, must regrettably take an "Oppose Unless Amended" position on SB 404 (Caballero).

We respect and appreciate the author's mission of perpetuating California's renown as a world leader in sound environmental practices and standards in the workplace. However, SB 404, as it is written, and while well intentioned, would create an unnecessary and undue burden on our state's small businesses. Scrap metal collection, transportation and recycling provides many jobs and opportunities to develop and own small businesses throughout the Golden State. Many within this industry alone have been able to feed their families, send their children to school and support their communities as a result of starting such a brick-and-mortar business.

As it is written, SB 404 unfairly benefits a handful of large shredding facilities to the detriment of thousands of small, family-owned and independent businesses that Californians rely upon each day to collect and process their scrap metal. If this bill is not amended, it will result in great harm, if not the entire demise, to "Main Street" businesses and jobs in this industry. And, worse, it could set a dangerous precedent for the state Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) to manage every aspect of the manufacturing of a product instead of its original and core mission: regulate waste.

SB 404, as it is currently drafted, imposes a redundant, one-size-fits-all, state mandated permitting program on small, family-owned metal recyclers – regardless of whether those recyclers conduct any chemical treatment of their waste residue. For these reasons, we must Oppose SB 404 Unless Amended and ask you to please vote "NO" when it comes before you. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Taylor', with a stylized, cursive script.

Tim Taylor
Legislative & Policy Director
National Federation of Independent Business - CA