



# Legislative Council Staff

## Research Note

Version: Final

Date: 10/6/2016

### Bill Number

House Bill 16-1182

### Sponsors

*Representatives Court & Duran  
Senators Cooke & Heath*

### Short Title

*Sunset Commodity Metals Theft  
Task Force*

### Research Analyst

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### Status

This research note reflects the final version of the bill, which became effective on April 12, 2016.

### Summary

This bill continues the Commodity Metals Theft Task Force until September 1, 2025. The bill changes the definition of a commodity metal to mean copper, a copper alloy including brass or bronze, and aluminum. It also encourages law enforcement agencies to join the scrap theft alert system and continue reporting commodity metals theft within their jurisdictions to the system.

### Background

The General Assembly created the task force in the Department of Public Safety in 2011 to develop recommendations aimed at reducing the theft of commodity metals like copper, aluminum, and stainless steel. The task force has 10 members from across law enforcement, the construction industry, the commodity metals business, railroads, and local governments. The task force must meet at least once a year.

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## House Action

**House Business Affairs and Labor Committee (February 23, 2016).** At the hearing, representatives from the Commodity Metals Theft Task Force, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Colorado Rural Electric Association, Union Pacific Railroad, Western Metals Recycling, and County Sheriffs of Colorado testified in support of the bill. The committee adopted amendments L.001 and L.002, and referred the bill to the House Committee of the Whole.

Amendment L.001 added bronze or brass copper alloys to the definition of a commodity metal and removed stainless steel, magnesium, and other highly traded metals. Amendment L.002 made technical changes to the bill's language encouraging law enforcement to join the scrap theft alert system and report thefts of commodity metals within their jurisdictions.

**House second reading (February 25, 2016).** The House adopted the House Business Affairs and Labor Committee report and passed the bill without additional amendments on second reading.

**House third reading (February 26, 2016).** The House passed the bill, unamended, on third reading.

## Senate Action

**Senate Judiciary Committee (March 21, 2016).** At the hearing, representatives from the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Colorado State Patrol, Colorado Rural Electric Association, County Sheriffs of Colorado, BNSF Railway, and one private citizen testified in support of the bill. The committee referred the bill, unamended, to the Senate Committee of the Whole, with a recommendation that it be placed on the consent calendar.

**Senate second reading (March 24, 2016).** The Senate passed the bill, unamended, on second reading.

**Senate third reading (March 28, 2016).** The Senate passed the bill, unamended, on third reading.

## Relevant Research

Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies, *Commodity Metals Theft Task Force 2015 Sunset Review*: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B8bNvcf083ydSDhkNUU3Vkn6NnM/view>