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The State of South Carolina
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

HENRY McMASTER
ATTORNEY GENERAL

August 15, 2005

The Honorable Glenn G. Reese
Senator, District No. 11
507 Fagan Drive
Lake Bowen
Inman, South Carolina 29349-7000

Dear Senator Reese:

In a letter to this office you questioned whether a scrap metal company can buy a large amount of scrap metal from an individual who has a picture license issued by a foreign country and who is not a United States citizen.

S.C. Code Ann. § 16-17-680 provides that

(i)t is unlawful to purchase copper wire, copper pipe, copper bars or copper sheeting in excess of ten pounds from a person who is not a holder of a retail license or an authorized wholesaler or unless the purchaser obtains and can verify the name and address of the seller.

Pursuant to subsection (D) of such provision,

(f)or purposes of this section, the only identification acceptable is:

- (1) a valid South Carolina driver's license;
- (2) a South Carolina identification card issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles;
- (3) a valid driver's license from another state that contains the licensee's picture on the face of the license; or
- (4) a valid military identification card.

Therefore, pursuant to such provision, a scrap metal company would not be authorized to buy a large amount of scrap metal from an individual whose only identification is a picture license issued by a foreign country. The only identifications authorized are those four methods set forth in subsection (D) above.

Reese 11/05/05

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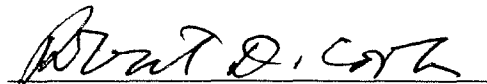
If there is anything further, please advise.

Sincerely,



Charles H. Richardson
Senior Assistant Attorney General

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:



Robert D. Cook
Assistant Deputy Attorney General