

Proposed Bill No. 5946.....General Law Committee

2-5-2009

Testimony given by Wayne Chagnot on behalf of the CT Auto Recyclers Association.

Good Afternoon:

My name is Wayne Chagnot. I am the current president of the CT Auto Recyclers Association . I am here in support of proposed bill 5946, an act concerning unauthorized motor vehicle recycling.

Currently any individual or business may advertise in Connecticut for recycled, used, unwanted, damaged, junk, broken or non running vehicles. The Connecticut Auto Recyclers believes this in an infringement upon the license of recyclers that operate legally. These individuals and businesses do not have the operating costs associated with a legal recycler and are able to purchase vehicles for a higher price than a licensed recycler can pay. They are also very willing to take vehicles with improper paperwork. All legal auto recyclers are required to have local zoning approval, be licensed by the CT-DMV and comply with all of the regulations of the State of Connecticut.

I am going to describe a situation I was involved with this past summer in my home town of Enfield. An add starting running in the local community newspaper: Auto Earth Recycling, free removal, recycle your auto. I know there are no licensed automotive recyclers located in Enfield. I ran the contact phone number on an internet search engine and found many ads for used/junk vehicles associated with this number. I checked the CT Secretary of State and the CT-DMV websites and neither had this business listed. I contacted the CT-DMV, CT-DEP and my town hall to file complaints. All three stated that without the address and name of the owner of the business there was nothing they could do. All I had to work with was the phone number in the ad.

The last contact I made was with the local community newspaper. The paper responded to the complaint with a fax stating: "We, as a company, cannot stop running "this" add, unless we are notified by the state not to." The paper did not verify if AER was a licensed auto recycler.

In addition to Auto Earth Recyclers add, there are several ads that are listed in local newspapers and on internet sites. A typical ad reads: Free pickup of unwanted cars. Cash paid for running cars. No paper – no problem. Then a phone number is listed. There is no business name or location listed.

Connecticut's licensed auto recyclers do their best to comply with laws and regulations of the State of Connecticut. Licensed recyclers are regulated by the town they operate in (zoning), CT-DMV, CT-DEP, CT-Dept of Labor, CT-Dept of Revenue. Compliance with these regulations is a substantial cost of our doing business in CT. We are asking that the state support our industry and encourage unlicensed recyclers to become licensed or to stop operating in our state. Supporting bill 5946 would be a step in this direction.

Thank You.

GOOD ADVERTISEMENTS:

**WE BUY
JUNK CARS**
Any Make, Any Model
DRIVE-IN
**NOW BUYING
SCRAP METAL**
Catalytic Converters,
Appliances, Car Parts & More!
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1-800-346-6318
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AUTO SALVAGE

CASH PAID
For Complete Junk Cars
Driven in.
Also, Pickup Available
PARKER STREET
USED AUTO PARTS
CALL 649-3391

UNKNOWN ADVERTISEMENTS:

**Junk Car
Removal**

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FREE REMOVAL
RECYCLE YOUR AUTO!
Used, Unwanted, Damaged,
Or Broken Auto & Trucks.
Cash paid for Trucks &
Some Makes & Models.
Call Auto Earth Recyclers
For more info call
(860)874-5751

FREE PICK-UP of unwanted
cars. Cash paid for running
cars. No paper - No problem.
(860)424-2542