

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you to express my opposition of Senate Bill 46 as written. My name is Bruce Harris and I am the owner of A-OK pawn shops in Wichita, KS. I have been a pawnbroker for over 30 years in the state of KS, and on the board for the National Pawnbrokers Association for a span of nearly 10 years. The current bill has worked well for a long time and has been fair to all parties involved. In my 30+ years of experience, I have worked side by side with the police to ensure proper appropriation of potentially stolen items. Our current pawn process in the state of Kansas deters criminals from bringing stolen items into pawn shops for the following reasons:

1. We upload all of the information from the customer's ID into our system.
2. We take a photo of the customer pledging the item.
3. We take a photo of the merchandise and upload serial numbers that are sent to the police department every business day.
4. The pledgor must sign that they are the lawful owner of that merchandise and record how long they have owned the merchandise.
5. Most pawnshops also have video recordings of the criminals attempting to pawn or sell stolen merchandise.

For these reasons, criminals rarely bring stolen merchandise into pawnshops which is why statistically less than 1% of items found in pawnshops are misappropriated items.

The proposed new Senate Bill 46 would greatly harm pawnshops, particularly due to the large number of duplicate merchandise categories that we take in on a daily basis such as tools, game systems, and jewelry. Relying on a customer's description of the stolen property therefore does not adequately prove ownership of the property.

For these reasons, I oppose Senate Bill 46.

Sincerely,

Bruce Harris

A-OK Pawn & Retail

Wichita, KS