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FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: Yes 12/29/2022

VETO MESSAGE: No

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING: Yes

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

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REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: No

CL/JA

P.L. 2023, CHAPTER 56, *approved May 15, 2023*
Senate, No. 249 (*First Reprint*)

1 AN ACT concerning the purchase of catalytic converters and
2 ¹amending and¹ supplementing P.L.2009, c.8.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6
7 **¹[**1. a. A core recycler shall not purchase or attempt to purchase
8 a catalytic converter, in whole or in part, if the catalytic converter is
9 not attached to a motor vehicle at the time of sale or attempted sale,
10 unless the seller is a used automotive parts dealer or an automotive
11 repair company.

12 b. The provisions of subsection a. of this section shall not
13 apply to a seller that:

14 (1) provides the core recycler with a certificate of title,
15 certificate of registration, a receipt from a transaction of repair, or a
16 bill of sale for the motor vehicle from which the catalytic converter
17 was taken; or

18 (2) is a registered business that, in the regular course of
19 business, collects, stores, or sells a catalytic converter or any other
20 motor vehicle part.

21 c. As used in this section, "core recycler" means a person that
22 buys used individual catalytic converters previously removed from
23 a motor vehicle. "Core recycler" shall include a motor vehicle junk
24 business or motor vehicle junk yard as defined in R.S.39:11-2,
25 pawnbroker as defined in R.S.45:22-1, and scrap metal business as
26 defined in section 1 of P.L.2009, c.8 (C.45:28-1).

27 d. A violation of this act shall be a disorderly persons offense
28 for a first or second offense, and a crime of the fourth degree for
29 third and subsequent offenses.

30 e. The Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the
31 Department of Law and Public Safety may promulgate, pursuant to
32 the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1
33 et seq.), rules and regulations necessary to effectuate the purposes
34 of this act. **]**¹

35
36 ¹1. Section 1 of P.L.2009, c.8 (C.45:28-1) is amended to read as
37 follows:

38 1. As used in this act:

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate SCM committee amendments adopted March 14, 2022.

1 "Scrap metal" means used, discarded, or previously owned items
2 that consist predominantly of ferrous metals, aluminum, brass,
3 copper, lead, chromium, tin, nickel, or alloys, and shall include a
4 used catalytic converter, in whole or in part, if the used catalytic
5 converter is not attached to a motor vehicle.

6 "Scrap metal business" means a commercial establishment
7 which, as one of its principal business purposes, purchases scrap
8 metal for purposes of resale or processing.¹

9 (cf: P.L.2009, c.8, s.1)

10

11 ¹2. Section 2 of P.L.2009, c.8 (C.45:28-2) is amended to read as
12 follows:

13 2. The operator of a scrap metal business shall:

14 a. Verify the identity of any person delivering or selling scrap
15 metal to the scrap metal business by requesting and examining a
16 photograph-bearing, valid State or federal driver's license or other
17 government-issued form of identification bearing a photograph;

18 b. Make a clear copy of, and record, in a manner as may be
19 prescribed by the Attorney General, the number of the driver's
20 license or other government-issued form of identification presented
21 by the person delivering or selling the scrap metal, before receiving
22 or purchasing any scrap metal from that person;

23 c. Maintain, for at least five years, a record of all receipts or
24 purchases of scrap metal in excess of 100 pounds or \$50, whichever
25 is less, including, but not limited to:

26 (1) the date of receipt or purchase of the scrap metal;

27 (2) the name and address of the person delivering or selling the
28 scrap metal;

29 (3) the type and number of the identification presented by the
30 person delivering or selling the scrap metal, along with a copy of
31 the driver's license or other government-issued form of
32 identification;

33 (4) a description of the scrap metal received or purchased,
34 including, but not limited to its type, amount, and form;

35 (5) the signature of the person delivering or selling the scrap
36 metal; **【and】**

37 (6) for a used catalytic converter, in whole or in part, that is not
38 attached to a motor vehicle at the time of sale or attempted sale,
39 unless the seller is a registered business that, in the regular course
40 of business, collects, stores, or sells a used catalytic converter or
41 any other motor vehicle part:

42 (a) the Vehicle Identification Number of the motor vehicle from
43 which the catalytic converter was taken; and

44 (b) a copy of the certificate of title or registration, a receipt from
45 a transaction of repair, or a bill of sale for the motor vehicle from
46 which the catalytic converter was taken; and

47 (7) any other information as may be required by the Attorney
48 General; **【and】**

1 d. Make any records maintained pursuant to subsection c. of
2 this section available, upon request, to any law enforcement agency
3 or official investigating the possible theft or resale of scrap metals;
4 and

5 e. Purchase or attempt to purchase only from a person
6 delivering or selling scrap metal who provides the information
7 required pursuant to this section.¹

8 (cf: P.L.2009, c.8, s.2)

9

10 ^{13.} Section 6 of P.L.2009, c.8 (C.45:28-5) is amended to read as
11 follows:

12 6. Violations of **【section 2 or 4 of】** P.L.2009, c.8 **【(C.45:28-2**
13 **or C.45:28-3)】** (C.45:28-1 et seq.) are disorderly persons offenses
14 for a first or second offense, and crimes of the fourth degree for
15 third and subsequent offenses.¹

16 (cf: P.L.2009, c.8, s.6)

17

18 ^{14.} (New section) The purchase of a used catalytic converter, in
19 whole or in part, that is not attached to a motor vehicle at the time
20 of sale or attempted sale shall be limited to a scrap metal business,
21 unless the seller of the used catalytic converter is a registered
22 business that, in the regular course of business, collects, stores, or
23 sells a catalytic converter or any other motor vehicle part.¹

24

25 ¹**【2.】** 5.¹ This act shall take effect immediately.

26

27

28

29

30 Implements certain guidelines concerning purchase of catalytic
31 converters.

SENATE, No. 249

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2022 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator SANDRA B. CUNNINGHAM

District 31 (Hudson)

Senator NELLIE POU

District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Implements certain guidelines concerning purchase of catalytic converters.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/14/2022)

1 AN ACT concerning the purchase of catalytic converters and
2 supplementing P.L.2009, c.8.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. a. A core recycler shall not purchase or attempt to purchase
8 a catalytic converter, in whole or in part, if the catalytic converter is
9 not attached to a motor vehicle at the time of sale or attempted sale,
10 unless the seller is a used automotive parts dealer or an automotive
11 repair company.

12 b. The provisions of subsection a. of this section shall not
13 apply to a seller that:

14 (1) provides the core recycler with a certificate of title,
15 certificate of registration, a receipt from a transaction of repair, or a
16 bill of sale for the motor vehicle from which the catalytic converter
17 was taken; or

18 (2) is a registered business that, in the regular course of
19 business, collects, stores, or sells a catalytic converter or any other
20 motor vehicle part.

21 c. As used in this section, "core recycler" means a person that
22 buys used individual catalytic converters previously removed from
23 a motor vehicle. "Core recycler" shall include a motor vehicle junk
24 business or motor vehicle junk yard as defined in R.S.39:11-2,
25 pawnbroker as defined in R.S.45:22-1, and scrap metal business as
26 defined in section 1 of P.L.2009, c.8 (C.45:28-1).

27 d. A violation of this act shall be a disorderly persons offense
28 for a first or second offense, and a crime of the fourth degree for
29 third and subsequent offenses.

30 e. The Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the
31 Department of Law and Public Safety may promulgate, pursuant to
32 the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1
33 et seq.), rules and regulations necessary to effectuate the purposes
34 of this act.

35

36 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

37

38

39

STATEMENT

40

41 This bill provides that a core recycler is not permitted to
42 purchase or attempt to purchase a catalytic converter, in whole or in
43 part, if the catalytic converter is not attached to a motor vehicle at
44 the time of sale or attempted sale, unless the seller is a used
45 automotive parts dealer or an automotive repair company. Pursuant
46 to the bill, "core recycler" means a person that buys used individual
47 catalytic converters previously removed from a motor vehicle. The
48 provisions of the bill do not apply to a seller that:

S249 CUNNINGHAM, POU

1 (1) provides the core recycler with a certificate of title,
2 certificate of registration, a receipt from a transaction of repair, or a
3 bill of sale for the motor vehicle from which the catalytic converter
4 was taken; or

5 (2) is a registered business that, in the regular course of
6 business, collects, stores, or sells a catalytic converter or any other
7 motor vehicle part.

8 A violation of the bill would be a disorderly persons offense for
9 a first or second offense, and a crime of the fourth degree for third
10 and subsequent offenses. A disorderly persons offense is ordinarily
11 punishable by a term of imprisonment of up to six months or a fine
12 of up to \$1,000, or both. A crime of the fourth degree is ordinarily
13 punishable by a term of imprisonment of up to 18 months or a fine
14 of up to \$10,000, or both.

ASSEMBLY LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 249

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 5, 2022

The Assembly Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 249 (1R).

As reported by the committee, Senate Bill No. 249 (1R) modifies existing law on the regulation of scrap metal businesses to incorporate certain provisions concerning catalytic converters.

The bill amends the definition of “scrap metal” to include a used catalytic converter, in whole or in part, if the used catalytic converter is not attached to a motor vehicle.

Current law requires the owner of a scrap metal business to maintain a record of all receipts or purchases of scrap metal in excess of 100 pounds or \$50, whichever is less, for at least five years. The record is to include, among other information, the date of receipt or purchase of the scrap metal and the name and address of the person delivering or selling the scrap metal. The bill expands the record requirement concerning purchases of used catalytic converters that are not attached to a motor vehicle. Under the bill, if a scrap metal business purchases a used, detached catalytic converter from a seller who is not registered as a business that, in the regular course of business, collects, stores, or sells a used catalytic converter or any other motor vehicle part the scrap metal business is to include in the record the following information:

(1) the Vehicle Identification Number of the motor vehicle from which the catalytic converter was taken; and

(2) a copy of the certificate of title or registration, a receipt from a transaction of repair, or a bill of sale for the motor vehicle from which the catalytic converter was taken.

The bill also prohibits the owner of a scrap metal business from purchasing or attempting to purchase scrap metal unless the person delivering or selling scrap metal provides the information required.

Lastly, the bill limits the purchase of used, detached catalytic converters to scrap metal businesses unless the seller is a registered business that, in the regular course of business, collects, stores, or sells catalytic converters or any other motor vehicle parts.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2022-2023 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

As reported by the committee, Senate Bill No. 249 (1R) is identical to Assembly Bill No. 2210 which was amended and also reported by the committee on this date.

ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 249

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 23, 2023

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 249 (1R).

This bill modifies existing law on the regulation of scrap metal businesses to incorporate certain provisions concerning catalytic converters.

The bill amends the definition of “scrap metal” to include a used catalytic converter, in whole or in part, if the used catalytic converter is not attached to a motor vehicle.

Current law requires the owner of a scrap metal business to maintain a record of all receipts or purchases of scrap metal in excess of 100 pounds or \$50, whichever is less, for at least five years. The record is to include, among other information, the date of receipt or purchase of the scrap metal and the name and address of the person delivering or selling the scrap metal. The bill expands the record requirement concerning purchases of used catalytic converters that are not attached to a motor vehicle. Under the bill, if a scrap metal business purchases a used, detached catalytic converter from a seller who is not registered as a business that, in the regular course of business, collects, stores, or sells a used catalytic converter or any other motor vehicle part the scrap metal business is to include in the record the following information:

(1) the Vehicle Identification Number of the motor vehicle from which the catalytic converter was taken; and

(2) a copy of the certificate of title or registration, a receipt from a transaction of repair, or a bill of sale for the motor vehicle from which the catalytic converter was taken.

The bill also prohibits the owner of a scrap metal business from purchasing or attempting to purchase scrap metal unless the person delivering or selling scrap metal provides the information required.

Lastly, the bill limits the purchase of used, detached catalytic converters to scrap metal businesses unless the seller is a registered business that, in the regular course of business, collects, stores, or sells catalytic converters or any other motor vehicle parts.

As reported by the committee, Senate Bill No. 249 (1R) is identical to Assembly Bill No. 2210 (1R) which also reported by the committee on this date.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) finds that the State and local governments will incur an indeterminate amount of annual cost increases to prosecute, defend, and adjudicate individuals who violate the bill's provisions regarding the sale and purchase of catalytic convertors.

A presumption of non-incarceration applies to first-time offenders of crimes of the fourth degree and disorderly persons offenses, and so it is unlikely that there will be any cost increases for the Department of Corrections or county jails associated with this bill.

The State and local governments are also likely to realize an indeterminate increase in revenues from the collection of fines and court fees.

SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 249

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 6, 2022

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 249 (1R).

The bill modifies existing law on the regulation of scrap metal businesses to incorporate certain provisions concerning catalytic converters.

The bill amends the definition of “scrap metal” to include a used catalytic converter, in whole or in part, if the used catalytic converter is not attached to a motor vehicle.

The bill requires the owner of a scrap metal business to maintain, for at least five years, a record of all receipts or purchases of scrap metal in excess of 100 pounds or \$50, whichever is less, including, among other items, the date of receipt or purchase of the scrap metal and the name and address of the person delivering or selling the scrap metal. The bill also expands the information the scrap metal business is to retain if a used catalytic converter not attached to a motor vehicle is purchased by the business from a seller that is not a registered business that, in the regular course of business, collects, stores, or sells a used catalytic converter or any other motor vehicle part. That information includes:

(1) the Vehicle Identification Number of the motor vehicle from which the catalytic converter was taken; and

(2) a copy of the certificate of title or registration, a receipt from a transaction of repair, or a bill of sale for the motor vehicle from which the catalytic converter was taken.

The bill also provides that the owner of a scrap metal business is required to purchase or attempt to purchase only from a person delivering or selling scrap metal who provides the information required.

Lastly, the bill provides that offering or attempting to offer for sale a used catalytic converter, in whole or in part, that is not attached to a motor vehicle is to be limited to a scrap metal business, unless the seller of the used catalytic converter is a registered business that, in the regular course of business, collects, stores, or sells a catalytic converter or any other motor vehicle part.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Office of Legislative Services finds that the State and local

governments will incur an indeterminate amount of annual cost increases to prosecute, defend, and adjudicate individuals who violate the bill's provisions regarding the sale and purchase of catalytic converters.

A presumption of non-incarceration applies to first-time offenders of crimes of the fourth degree and disorderly persons offenses, and so it is unlikely that there will be any cost increases for the Department of Corrections or county jails associated with this bill.

The State and local governments are also likely to realize an indeterminate increase in revenues from the collection of fines and court fees.

RACIAL AND ETHNIC COMMUNITY CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY IMPACT STATEMENT

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 249

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

Synopsis: Implements certain guidelines concerning purchase of catalytic converters

INTRODUCTION

The Office of Legislative Services does not develop or maintain source data concerning the criminal justice system in the State. The Office of Legislative Services makes reasonable efforts to obtain data from Executive Branch Departments and the Judiciary. This statement may reflect information provided by the United States Census Bureau, the Administrative Office of the Courts within the Judiciary, the New Jersey Department of Corrections, the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General, and the Juvenile Justice Commission in the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety. The publicly available data contained within this statement allows for a general overview of the population data for racial and ethnic minorities nationally, Statewide, and within the incarcerated populations. This statement does not provide for an in-depth analysis of that data.

Additional data concerning events of interest (i.e. arrests, charges, and convictions), recidivism rates, and incarceration rates for the specific crimes addressed herein sorted by race and ethnicity is needed in order to make a conclusion on the impacts on racial and ethnic minorities. Additional data concerning the deterrent effects of similar laws of this type is needed to determine the impact on community criminal justice and public safety. It should be noted that the data needed is not currently collected by the responding departments or agencies as it likely does not exist.

BILL DESCRIPTION

Senate Bill No. 249(1R) modifies existing law concerning the regulation of scrap metal businesses to incorporate certain provisions related to catalytic converters.

The bill amends the definition of “scrap metal” to include a used catalytic converter, in whole or in part, if the used catalytic converter is not attached to a motor vehicle.

Current law requires the owner of a scrap metal business to maintain a record of all receipts or purchases of scrap metal in excess of 100 pounds or \$50, whichever is less, for at least five years. The record is to include, among other information, the date of receipt or purchase of the scrap metal and the name and address of the person delivering or selling the scrap metal. The bill expands the record requirement concerning purchases of used catalytic converters that are not attached to a motor vehicle. Under the bill, if a scrap metal business purchases a used, detached catalytic converter from a seller who is not registered as a business that, in the regular course of business, collects, stores, or sells a used catalytic converter or any other motor vehicle part the scrap metal business is to include in the record the following information:

(1) the Vehicle Identification Number of the motor vehicle from which the catalytic converter was taken; and

(2) a copy of the certificate of title or registration, a receipt from a transaction of repair, or a bill of sale for the motor vehicle from which the catalytic converter was taken.

The bill also prohibits the owner of a scrap metal business from purchasing or attempting to purchase scrap metal unless the person delivering or selling scrap metal provides the information required.

Lastly, the bill limits the purchase of used, detached catalytic converters to scrap metal businesses unless the seller is a registered business that, in the regular course of business, collects, stores, or sells catalytic converters or any other motor vehicle parts.

Federal and State Census Information¹

	Population	Caucasian	African American	Native American/ Alaska Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	Hispanic	Two or More Races/Other
National Census Estimate	331,450,000	59.3%	13.6%	1.3%	6.1%	0.3%	18.9%	2.9%
State Census Estimate	9,289,000	53.5%	15.3%	0.7%	10.3%	0.1%	21.5%	2.4%

Federal and State Inmate Population Data

	Total Population	Caucasian	African American	Native American/ Alaska Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	Hispanic	Other/ Unknown
Actual Federal Adult Inmate Population ²	158,081	27.3%	38.5%	2.6%	1.4%	N/A	30.2%	N/A
Actual State Adult Inmate Population ³	12,492	22.0%	61.0%	0.0%	1.0%	N/A	16.0 %	0.0 %

State Census and State Inmate Population Data

	Total Population	Caucasian	African American	Native American/ Alaska Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	Hispanic	Other/ Unknown
State Census Estimate	9,289,000	53.5%	15.3%	0.7%	10.3%	0.1%	21.5%	2.4%
Actual State Adult Inmate Population ³	12,492	22.0%	61.0%	0.0%	1.0%	N/A	16.0%	0.0%

¹ Publicly available data obtained from the federal census for national and State populations as of April 1, 2020.

² Publicly available data of federally sentenced persons in custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, as of February 18, 2023.

³ Publicly available data produced by the New Jersey Department of Corrections concerning the State inmate population on January 4, 2022. It has been reported by the New Jersey Department of Corrections that the Fiscal Year 2023 average daily population was 10,332 people. However, that number has not been sorted by race and ethnicity.

DATA PROVIDED BY THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

No data concerning P.L.2009, c.8 (C.45:28-1 et seq.) was provided by the Office of the Attorney General.

The following response was provided by the Juvenile Justice Commission:

The Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) does not maintain or have direct access to detailed data on youth arrests, prosecutions, or adjudications (i.e. convictions). The JJC is not a prosecutorial agency. The JJC does not keep racial and ethnic data segregated by crimes for arrests, prosecutions, or adjudications for the juveniles committed to its care.

The Department of Corrections has made available to the public statistical data concerning the State inmate population categorized by race and ethnicity for 2022, which are reflected in the charts on page 2, and offenders by base offense for 2021 and 2022 in the following charts:

Offenders by Base Offense for 2021

Base Offense	Total		Male Offenders in Other Facilities		Youth Offenders		ADTC		Edna Mahan		Halfway Houses, County Jails, St. Francis	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
TOTAL OFFENDERS	12,808	100%	9,358	100%	1,321	100%	406	100%	404	100%	1,319	100%
Property Offenses	559	4%	362	4%	47	4%	0	0%	25	6%	125	9%

Offenders by Base Offense for 2022

Base Offense	Total		Male Offenders in Other Facilities		Youth Offenders		ADTC		Edna Mahan		Halfway Houses, County Jails, St. Francis	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
TOTAL OFFENDERS	12,492	100%	9,442	100%	1,139	100%	410	100%	408	100%	1,093	100%
Property Offenses	526	4%	375	4%	57	5%	0	0%	36	9%	58	5%

Note: In these tabulations, the base offense is the most serious offense at the time of admission. These figures reflect base or controlling offenses at admission only and do not include any offenses in addition to the base offense in the case of multiple sentences at admission. Property offenses include burglary, arson, theft, forgery, embezzlement, and receiving/possessing stolen property.

DATA PROVIDED BY THE JUDICIARY

No data concerning P.L.2009, c.8 (C.45:28-1 et seq.) was provided by the Administrative Office of the Courts, which is the agency within the Judiciary responsible for the administration of court processes, rules promulgation, and data collection.

DATED: MARCH 1, 2023

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 249

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

DATED: APRIL 12, 2022

SUMMARY

- Synopsis:** Implements certain guidelines concerning purchase of catalytic converters.
- Type of Impact:** Annual State and local expenditure and revenue increases.
- Agencies Affected:** Department of Law and Public Safety, the Judiciary, Office of the Public Defender, local governments

Office of Legislative Services Estimate

Fiscal Impact	
Annual State Cost Increase	Indeterminate
Annual State Revenue Increase	Indeterminate
Annual Local Cost Increase	Indeterminate
Annual Local Revenue Increase	Indeterminate

- The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) finds that the State and local governments will incur an indeterminate amount of annual cost increases to prosecute, defend, and adjudicate individuals who violate the bill's provisions regarding the sale and purchase of catalytic converters.
- A presumption of non-incarceration applies to first-time offenders of crimes of the fourth degree and disorderly persons offenses, and so it is unlikely that there will be any cost increases for the Department of Corrections or county jails associated with this bill.
- The State and local governments are also likely to realize an indeterminate increase in revenues from the collection of fines and court fees.

BILL DESCRIPTION

The bill modifies existing law on the regulation of scrap metal businesses to incorporate certain provisions concerning catalytic converters. The bill amends the definition of "scrap

metal” to include a used catalytic converter if it is not attached to a motor vehicle. The bill provides that offering for sale a used catalytic converter that is not attached to a motor vehicle is to be limited to a scrap metal business, unless the seller of the used catalytic converter is a registered business that collects, stores, or sells a catalytic converter or any other motor vehicle part. Violations of this bill will constitute a disorderly persons offense for a first or second offense and will constitute a crime of the fourth degree for third and subsequent offenses.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

None received.

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

The OLS finds that the State and local governments will incur an indeterminate amount of annual cost increases to prosecute, defend, and adjudicate individuals who violate the bill’s provisions regarding the sale and purchase of catalytic convertors. A disorderly persons offense is adjudicated in municipal court and is punishable by a term of imprisonment of up to six months, a fine of up to \$1,000, or both. A crime of the fourth degree is adjudicated in State court and is punishable by a term of imprisonment of up to 18 months, a fine up to \$10,000, or both. A presumption of non-incarceration applies to first-time offenders of crimes of the fourth degree and disorderly persons offenses, and so it is unlikely that there will be any cost increases for the Department of Corrections or county jails associated with this bill. The State and local governments are also likely to realize an indeterminate increase in revenues from the collection of fines and court fees.

The OLS lacks sufficient information to quantify the fiscal impact of this bill, as it is unclear as to how many individuals would be found guilty of violating its provisions in any given fiscal year. For context, based on estimates provided by the National Insurance Crime Bureau, catalytic converter thefts have risen dramatically nationwide in recent years. In 2019, there were 3,389 claims filed. In 2020, that number jumped 326 percent to 14,443. In a July 2021 report by State Farm, it was found that its catalytic converter theft insurance claims rose nearly 293 percent nationwide from mid-2020 to mid-2021 compared with the previous year.

Section: *Judiciary*
Analyst: *Anuja Pande Joshi*
 Associate Research Analyst
Approved: *Thomas Koenig*
 Legislative Budget and Finance Officer

This legislative fiscal estimate has been produced by the Office of Legislative Services due to the failure of the Executive Branch to respond to our request for a fiscal note.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67 (C.52:13B-6 et seq.).

ASSEMBLY, No. 2210

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 7, 2022

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman LOUIS D. GREENWALD

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

Assemblyman WILLIAM B. SAMPSON, IV

District 31 (Hudson)

Assemblyman PAUL D. MORIARTY

District 4 (Camden and Gloucester)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Danielsen, Conaway, Spearman and Atkins

SYNOPSIS

Implements certain guidelines concerning purchase of catalytic converters.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/5/2022)

1 AN ACT concerning the purchase of catalytic converters and
2 supplementing P.L.2009, c.8.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. a. A core recycler shall not purchase or attempt to purchase
8 a catalytic converter, in whole or in part, if the catalytic converter is
9 not attached to a motor vehicle at the time of sale or attempted sale,
10 unless the seller is a used automotive parts dealer or an automotive
11 repair company.

12 b. The provisions of subsection a. of this section shall not
13 apply to a seller that:

14 (1) provides the core recycler with a certificate of title,
15 certificate of registration, a receipt from a transaction of repair, or a
16 bill of sale for the motor vehicle from which the catalytic converter
17 was taken; or

18 (2) is a registered business that, in the regular course of
19 business, collects, stores, or sells a catalytic converter or any other
20 motor vehicle part.

21 c. As used in this section, "core recycler" means a person that
22 buys used individual catalytic converters previously removed from
23 a motor vehicle. "Core recycler" shall include a motor vehicle junk
24 business or motor vehicle junk yard as defined in R.S.39:11-2,
25 pawnbroker as defined in R.S.45:22-1, and scrap metal business as
26 defined in section 1 of P.L.2009, c.8 (C.45:28-1).

27 d. A violation of this act shall be a disorderly persons offense
28 for a first or second offense, and a crime of the fourth degree for
29 third and subsequent offenses.

30 e. The Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the
31 Department of Law and Public Safety may promulgate, pursuant to
32 the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1
33 et seq.), rules and regulations necessary to effectuate the purposes
34 of this act.

35

36 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

37

38

39

STATEMENT

40

41 This bill provides that a core recycler is not permitted to
42 purchase or attempt to purchase a catalytic converter, in whole or in
43 part, if the catalytic converter is not attached to a motor vehicle at
44 the time of sale or attempted sale, unless the seller is a used
45 automotive parts dealer or an automotive repair company. Pursuant
46 to the bill, "core recycler" means a person that buys used individual
47 catalytic converters previously removed from a motor vehicle. The
48 provisions of the bill do not apply to a seller that:

A2210 GREENWALD, SAMPSON

1 (1) provides the core recycler with a certificate of title,
2 certificate of registration, a receipt from a transaction of repair, or a
3 bill of sale for the motor vehicle from which the catalytic converter
4 was taken; or

5 (2) is a registered business that, in the regular course of
6 business, collects, stores, or sells a catalytic converter or any other
7 motor vehicle part.

8 A violation of the bill would be a disorderly persons offense for
9 a first or second offense, and a crime of the fourth degree for third
10 and subsequent offenses. A disorderly persons offense is ordinarily
11 punishable by a term of imprisonment of up to six months or a fine
12 of up to \$1,000, or both. A crime of the fourth degree is ordinarily
13 punishable by a term of imprisonment of up to 18 months or a fine
14 of up to \$10,000, or both.

ASSEMBLY, No. 2210

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 7, 2022

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman LOUIS D. GREENWALD

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

Assemblyman WILLIAM B. SAMPSON, IV

District 31 (Hudson)

Assemblyman PAUL D. MORIARTY

District 4 (Camden and Gloucester)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Danielsen, Conaway, Spearman and Atkins

SYNOPSIS

Implements certain guidelines concerning purchase of catalytic converters.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/5/2022)

1 AN ACT concerning the purchase of catalytic converters and
2 supplementing P.L.2009, c.8.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. a. A core recycler shall not purchase or attempt to purchase
8 a catalytic converter, in whole or in part, if the catalytic converter is
9 not attached to a motor vehicle at the time of sale or attempted sale,
10 unless the seller is a used automotive parts dealer or an automotive
11 repair company.

12 b. The provisions of subsection a. of this section shall not
13 apply to a seller that:

14 (1) provides the core recycler with a certificate of title,
15 certificate of registration, a receipt from a transaction of repair, or a
16 bill of sale for the motor vehicle from which the catalytic converter
17 was taken; or

18 (2) is a registered business that, in the regular course of
19 business, collects, stores, or sells a catalytic converter or any other
20 motor vehicle part.

21 c. As used in this section, "core recycler" means a person that
22 buys used individual catalytic converters previously removed from
23 a motor vehicle. "Core recycler" shall include a motor vehicle junk
24 business or motor vehicle junk yard as defined in R.S.39:11-2,
25 pawnbroker as defined in R.S.45:22-1, and scrap metal business as
26 defined in section 1 of P.L.2009, c.8 (C.45:28-1).

27 d. A violation of this act shall be a disorderly persons offense
28 for a first or second offense, and a crime of the fourth degree for
29 third and subsequent offenses.

30 e. The Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the
31 Department of Law and Public Safety may promulgate, pursuant to
32 the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1
33 et seq.), rules and regulations necessary to effectuate the purposes
34 of this act.

35

36 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

40

41 This bill provides that a core recycler is not permitted to
42 purchase or attempt to purchase a catalytic converter, in whole or in
43 part, if the catalytic converter is not attached to a motor vehicle at
44 the time of sale or attempted sale, unless the seller is a used
45 automotive parts dealer or an automotive repair company. Pursuant
46 to the bill, "core recycler" means a person that buys used individual
47 catalytic converters previously removed from a motor vehicle. The
48 provisions of the bill do not apply to a seller that:

A2210 GREENWALD, SAMPSON

1 (1) provides the core recycler with a certificate of title,
2 certificate of registration, a receipt from a transaction of repair, or a
3 bill of sale for the motor vehicle from which the catalytic converter
4 was taken; or

5 (2) is a registered business that, in the regular course of
6 business, collects, stores, or sells a catalytic converter or any other
7 motor vehicle part.

8 A violation of the bill would be a disorderly persons offense for
9 a first or second offense, and a crime of the fourth degree for third
10 and subsequent offenses. A disorderly persons offense is ordinarily
11 punishable by a term of imprisonment of up to six months or a fine
12 of up to \$1,000, or both. A crime of the fourth degree is ordinarily
13 punishable by a term of imprisonment of up to 18 months or a fine
14 of up to \$10,000, or both.

ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 2210

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 23, 2023

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 2210 (1R).

This bill modifies existing law concerning the regulation of scrap metal businesses to incorporate certain provisions related to catalytic converters.

The bill amends the definition of “scrap metal” to include a used catalytic converter, in whole or in part, if the used catalytic converter is not attached to a motor vehicle.

Current law requires the owner of a scrap metal business to maintain a record of all receipts or purchases of scrap metal in excess of 100 pounds or \$50, whichever is less, for at least five years. The record is to include, among other information, the date of receipt or purchase of the scrap metal and the name and address of the person delivering or selling the scrap metal. The bill expands the record requirement concerning purchases of used catalytic converters that are not attached to a motor vehicle. Under the bill, if a scrap metal business purchases a used, detached catalytic converter from a seller who is not registered as a business that, in the regular course of business, collects, stores, or sells a used catalytic converter or any other motor vehicle part the scrap metal business is to include in the record the following information:

(1) the Vehicle Identification Number of the motor vehicle from which the catalytic converter was taken; and

(2) a copy of the certificate of title or registration, a receipt from a transaction of repair, or a bill of sale for the motor vehicle from which the catalytic converter was taken.

The bill also prohibits the owner of a scrap metal business from purchasing or attempting to purchase scrap metal unless the person delivering or selling scrap metal provides the information required.

Lastly, the bill limits the purchase of used, detached catalytic converters to scrap metal businesses unless the seller is a registered business that, in the regular course of business, collects, stores, or sells catalytic converters or any other motor vehicle parts.

As reported by the committee, Assembly Bill No. 2210 (1R) is identical to Senate Bill No. 249 (1R) which also was reported by the committee on this date.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) finds that the State and local governments will incur an indeterminate amount of annual cost increases to prosecute, defend, and adjudicate individuals who violate the bill's provisions regarding the sale and purchase of catalytic convertors.

A presumption of non-incarceration applies to first-time offenders of crimes of the fourth degree and disorderly persons offenses, and so it is unlikely that there will be any cost increases for the Department of Corrections or county jails associated with this bill.

The State and local governments are also likely to realize an indeterminate increase in revenues from the collection of fines and court fees.

RACIAL AND ETHNIC COMMUNITY CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY IMPACT STATEMENT

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 2210

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY
220th LEGISLATURE**

Synopsis: Implements certain guidelines concerning purchase of catalytic converters

INTRODUCTION

The Office of Legislative Services does not develop or maintain source data concerning the criminal justice system in the State. The Office of Legislative Services makes reasonable efforts to obtain data from Executive Branch Departments and the Judiciary. This statement may reflect information provided by the United States Census Bureau, the Administrative Office of the Courts within the Judiciary, the New Jersey Department of Corrections, the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General, and the Juvenile Justice Commission in the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety. The publicly available data contained within this statement allows for a general overview of the population data for racial and ethnic minorities nationally, Statewide, and within the incarcerated populations. This statement does not provide for an in-depth analysis of that data.

Additional data concerning events of interest (i.e. arrests, charges, and convictions), recidivism rates, and incarceration rates for the specific crimes addressed herein sorted by race and ethnicity is needed in order to make a conclusion on the impacts on racial and ethnic minorities. Additional data concerning the deterrent effects of similar laws of this type is needed to determine the impact on community criminal justice and public safety. It should be noted that the data needed is not currently collected by the responding departments or agencies as it likely does not exist.

BILL DESCRIPTION

Assembly Bill No. 2210(1R) modifies existing law concerning the regulation of scrap metal businesses to incorporate certain provisions related to catalytic converters.

The bill amends the definition of “scrap metal” to include a used catalytic converter, in whole or in part, if the used catalytic converter is not attached to a motor vehicle.

Current law requires the owner of a scrap metal business to maintain a record of all receipts or purchases of scrap metal in excess of 100 pounds or \$50, whichever is less, for at least five years. The record is to include, among other information, the date of receipt or purchase of the scrap metal and the name and address of the person delivering or selling the scrap metal. The bill expands the record requirement concerning purchases of used catalytic converters that are not attached to a motor vehicle. Under the bill, if a scrap metal business purchases a used, detached catalytic converter from a seller who is not registered as a business that, in the regular course of business, collects, stores, or sells a used catalytic converter or any other motor vehicle part the scrap metal business is to include in the record the following information:

(1) the Vehicle Identification Number of the motor vehicle from which the catalytic converter was taken; and

(2) a copy of the certificate of title or registration, a receipt from a transaction of repair, or a bill of sale for the motor vehicle from which the catalytic converter was taken.

The bill also prohibits the owner of a scrap metal business from purchasing or attempting to purchase scrap metal unless the person delivering or selling scrap metal provides the information required.

Lastly, the bill limits the purchase of used, detached catalytic converters to scrap metal businesses unless the seller is a registered business that, in the regular course of business, collects, stores, or sells catalytic converters or any other motor vehicle parts.

Federal and State Census Information¹

	Population	Caucasian	African American	Native American/ Alaska Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	Hispanic	Two or More Races/Other
National Census Estimate	331,450,000	59.3%	13.6%	1.3%	6.1%	0.3%	18.9%	2.9%
State Census Estimate	9,289,000	53.5%	15.3%	0.7%	10.3%	0.1%	21.5%	2.4%

Federal and State Inmate Population Data

	Total Population	Caucasian	African American	Native American/ Alaska Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	Hispanic	Other/ Unknown
Actual Federal Adult Inmate Population ²	158,081	27.3%	38.5%	2.6%	1.4%	N/A	30.2%	N/A
Actual State Adult Inmate Population ³	12,492	22.0%	61.0%	0.0%	1.0%	N/A	16.0 %	0.0 %

State Census and State Inmate Population Data

	Total Population	Caucasian	African American	Native American/ Alaska Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	Hispanic	Other/ Unknown
State Census Estimate	9,289,000	53.5%	15.3%	0.7%	10.3%	0.1%	21.5%	2.4%
Actual State Adult Inmate Population ³	12,492	22.0%	61.0%	0.0%	1.0%	N/A	16.0%	0.0%

¹ Publicly available data obtained from the federal census for national and State populations as of April 1, 2020.

² Publicly available data of federally sentenced persons in custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, as of February 18, 2023.

³ Publicly available data produced by the New Jersey Department of Corrections concerning the State inmate population on January 4, 2022. It has been reported by the New Jersey Department of Corrections that the Fiscal Year 2023 average daily population was 10,332 people. However, that number has not been sorted by race and ethnicity.

DATA PROVIDED BY THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

No data concerning P.L.2009, c.8 (C.45:28-1 et seq.) was provided by the Office of the Attorney General.

The Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) does not maintain or have direct access to detailed data on youth arrests, prosecutions, or adjudications (i.e. convictions). The JJC is not a prosecutorial agency. The JJC does not keep racial and ethnic data segregated by crimes for arrests, prosecutions, or adjudications for the juveniles committed to its care.

The Department of Corrections has made available to the public statistical data concerning the State inmate population categorized by race and ethnicity for 2022, which are reflected in the charts on page 2, and offenders by base offense for 2021 and 2022 in the following charts:

Offenders by Base Offense for 2021

Base Offense	Total		Male Offenders in Other Facilities		Youth Offenders		ADTC		Edna Mahan		Halfway Houses, County Jails, St. Francis	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
TOTAL OFFENDERS	12,808	100%	9,358	100%	1,321	100%	406	100%	404	100%	1,319	100%
Property Offenses	559	4%	362	4%	47	4%	0	0%	25	6%	125	9%

Offenders by Base Offense for 2022

Base Offense	Total		Male Offenders in Other Facilities		Youth Offenders		ADTC		Edna Mahan		Halfway Houses, County Jails, St. Francis	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
TOTAL OFFENDERS	12,492	100%	9,442	100%	1,139	100%	410	100%	408	100%	1,093	100%
Property Offenses	526	4%	375	4%	57	5%	0	0%	36	9%	58	5%

Note: In these tabulations, the base offense is the most serious offense at the time of admission. These figures reflect base or controlling offenses at admission only and do not include any offenses in addition to the base offense in the case of multiple sentences at admission. Property offenses include burglary, arson, theft, forgery, embezzlement, and receiving/possessing stolen property.

DATA PROVIDED BY THE JUDICIARY

No data concerning P.L.2009, c.8 (C.45:28-1 et seq.) was provided by the Administrative Office of the Courts, which is the agency within the Judiciary responsible for the administration of court processes, rules promulgation, and data collection.

DATED: MARCH 1, 2023

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 2210

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

DATED: DECEMBER 29, 2022

SUMMARY

- Synopsis:** Implements certain guidelines concerning purchase of catalytic converters.
- Type of Impact:** Annual State and local expenditure and revenue increases.
- Agencies Affected:** Department of Law and Public Safety, the Judiciary, Office of the Public Defender, local governments.

Office of Legislative Services Estimate

Fiscal Impact	
Annual State Cost Increase	Indeterminate
Annual State Revenue Increase	Indeterminate
Annual Local Cost Increase	Indeterminate
Annual Local Revenue Increase	Indeterminate

- The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) finds that the State and local governments will incur an indeterminate amount of annual cost increases to prosecute, defend, and adjudicate individuals who violate the bill's provisions regarding the sale and purchase of catalytic converters.
- A presumption of non-incarceration applies to first-time offenders of crimes of the fourth degree and disorderly persons offenses, and so it is unlikely that there will be any cost increases for the Department of Corrections or county jails associated with this bill.
- The State and local governments are also likely to realize an indeterminate increase in revenues from the collection of fines and court fees.

BILL DESCRIPTION

The bill modifies existing law on the regulation of scrap metal businesses to incorporate certain provisions concerning catalytic converters. The bill amends the definition of “scrap metal” to include a used catalytic converter if it is not attached to a motor vehicle. The bill provides that offering for sale a used catalytic converter that is not attached to a motor vehicle is to be limited to a scrap metal business, unless the seller of the used catalytic converter is a registered business that collects, stores, or sells a catalytic converter or any other motor vehicle part. Violations of this bill will constitute a disorderly persons offense for a first or second offense and will constitute a crime of the fourth degree for third and subsequent offenses.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

None received.

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

The OLS finds that the State and local governments will incur an indeterminate amount of annual cost increases to prosecute, defend, and adjudicate individuals who violate the bill’s provisions regarding the sale and purchase of catalytic converters. A disorderly persons offense is adjudicated in municipal court and is punishable by a term of imprisonment of up to six months, a fine of up to \$1,000, or both. A crime of the fourth degree is adjudicated in State court and is punishable by a term of imprisonment of up to 18 months, a fine up to \$10,000, or both. A presumption of non-incarceration applies to first-time offenders of crimes of the fourth degree and disorderly persons offenses, and so it is unlikely that there will be any cost increases for the Department of Corrections or county jails associated with this bill. The State and local governments are also likely to realize an indeterminate increase in revenues from the collection of fines and court fees.

The OLS lacks sufficient information to quantify the fiscal impact of this bill, as it is unclear as to how many individuals would be found guilty of violating its provisions in any given fiscal year. For context, based on estimates provided by the National Insurance Crime Bureau, catalytic converter thefts have risen dramatically nationwide in recent years. In 2019, there were 3,389 claims filed. In 2020, that number jumped 326 percent to 14,443 and more than tripled to 52,206 in 2021.

Section: Judiciary

Analyst: Anuja Pande Joshi
Associate Fiscal Analyst

Approved: Thomas Koenig
Legislative Budget and Finance Officer

This legislative fiscal estimate has been produced by the Office of Legislative Services due to the failure of the Executive Branch to respond to our request for a fiscal note.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67 (C.52:13B-6 et seq.).

Governor Murphy Signs Bill to Prevent the Illegal Sale and Purchase of Catalytic Converters

05/15/2023

Continues Crackdown on and Prevention of Auto Theft in New Jersey

TRENTON – In a continued effort to combat auto thefts in New Jersey, Governor Phil Murphy today signed S249/A2210, making it more difficult for bad actors to sell stolen catalytic converters to scrap yards and making it easier for law enforcement to identify, locate, and prosecute violators.

The bill is one of several steps included in a comprehensive plan the Governor [announced](#) in November 2022, comprised of proposed legislation and Administrative action to address auto theft. The bill, which implements certain guidelines concerning the sale and purchase of catalytic converters, will:

- amend the definition of “scrap metal” to explicitly include all or part of a used catalytic converter that is not attached to a motor vehicle;
- strengthen the verification of ownership in the process of selling used catalytic converters to scrap metal businesses by requiring the business to document the VIN, the certificate of title or registration, a receipt from a repair transaction, or a bill of sale at the time of purchase, and imposing fines on businesses that violate this requirement; and
- allow only for scrap metal businesses to purchase used catalytic converters from persons other than a seller, that is a registered business that in the course of its regular business, collects, stores, or sells catalytic converters or other vehicle parts.

“Addressing catalytic converter theft is another method of combating auto theft and crime in our state. Residents who experience the violation of having a critical component of their vehicle stolen are forced to pay thousands of dollars to replace them,” **said Governor Murphy**. “We take seriously the safety of our residents and communities and will continue to confront this issue head on to further the tremendous progress we have made in reducing auto thefts.”

The new law signed today builds on the Murphy Administration’s successful steps to reduce auto theft in the State. In April 2022, Governor Murphy [announced](#) a \$10 million investment in automated license plate recognition (ALPR) technology to reduce violent crime and auto theft in New Jersey through the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) State Fiscal Recovery Fund. In April 2023, Attorney General Matthew J. Platkin [announced](#) that 34 law enforcement agencies in 21 counties and the New Jersey State Police (NJSP) will receive grant funding to acquire or expand the technology across the state.

“With today’s bill signing, Governor Phil Murphy fortifies our battle against auto thefts in New Jersey,” **said Attorney General Matthew J. Platkin**. “By implementing guidelines on the sale and purchase of catalytic converters, we raise the bar for accountability, making it harder for criminals to profit from stolen converters and easier for law enforcement to bring them to justice. Together, we send a resounding message: we stand united in safeguarding our communities and will utilize all available tools to combat auto theft.”

“Today’s bill signing represents a significant step in assisting law enforcement officers throughout the state to reduce auto thefts and the illegal sale of catalytic converters,” **said Colonel Patrick J. Callahan, Superintendent of the New Jersey State Police**. “I applaud Governor Murphy for taking legislative steps toward tackling this nationwide issue.”

The prime sponsors of this bill are Senator Nellie Pou and Assemblyman Louis Greenwald.

“Catalytic converter thefts have plagued our state for too long, leaving residents unable to drive their cars and creating an immediate need for major repair,” **said Senator Nellie Pou**. “I want to recognize my colleague Senator Sandra Cunningham for her tireless efforts in getting this bill passed. This legislation will make it tougher for thieves to resell the stolen parts or realize a profit, and will discourage the theft altogether.”

“By creating barriers that make it more difficult for individuals to profit from their crimes, we are taking a proactive approach to addressing car theft in New Jersey,” **said Assembly Majority Leader Louis D. Greenwald**. “This has become a real problem in many communities throughout the State. New Jersey residents deserve to feel safe and secure.”

The new law will take effect immediately.