

HB 1406 -- CATALYTIC CONVERTERS

SPONSOR: Billington

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Emerging Issues by a vote of 12 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 7 to 0.

This bill specifies that a record for the sale of a catalytic converter must include the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) of the vehicle from which the catalytic converter was removed.

This bill is the same as HB 37 (2023).

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the presence of VIN numbers on catalytic converters would enable law enforcement to trace the sale of a stolen catalytic converter to the vehicle it was stolen from. This legislation ensures that VIN numbers are etched into catalytic converters, thereby helping law enforcement tie the theft to the affected vehicle.

Testifying in person for the bill were Representative Billington; Enterprise Holdings, Inc. D/B/A Enterprise Mobility; and Missouri Insurance Coalition.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that catalytic converters are often the target of theft because they contain valuable metals and lack identifying features such as a vehicle identification number. Catalytic converters are typically easy to remove from a vehicle and can be sold at a significant profit. Some states have recently enacted legislation that requires etching of VIN numbers on catalytic converters. However, the efficacy of this legislation has yet to be proven due to the recency of such legislation.

Testifying in person on the bill were Madeleine Roberts, Most Policy Initiative; Institute Of Scrap Recycling Industries; and Advantage Metals Recycling.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony and witnesses testifying online can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.