



Phil Plummer
State Representative

Sponsor Testimony – House Bill 210

Chair Abrams, Vice Chair Miller, Ranking Member Thomas, and members of the House Public Safety Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 210.

House Bill 210 is Representative Roemer and I's catalytic converter bill. We've worked on this issue for several years now, gaining input from interested parties on how to best address this issue.

Catalytic converters naturally possess multiple high-value precious metals and are relatively easy to steal. Not only are they easy to steal, they're easy to scrap and cash in on the precious metal value.

House Bill 210 aims to control this issue by enhancing penalties for theft when the stolen property is a catalytic converter, enhances penalties for receiving stolen property when the property is a catalytic converter, and requires scrap metal dealers to comply with recordkeeping and reporting requirements, amongst other smaller changes.

It's simple: catalytic converter theft is a plague on society. What we are doing now in Ohio simply doesn't work. The bill we have proposed is a step in the right direction. Catalytic converter theft affects all facets of society from the working poor to agencies striving to protect our most vulnerable citizens. As the former Sheriff of Montgomery County, I have personally seen the damage that catalytic converter theft has caused on businesses and families. This bill is a common-sense approach working to rectify the issue. We stand ready to answer any questions the committee may have.