



## **OHIO WHOLESALE MARKETERS ASSOCIATION**

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### **Sub. House Bill 210 – Catalytic Converter Theft Senate Judiciary Committee**

**Statement of Support  
Beth Wymer, Executive Director  
February 11, 2026**

On behalf of the members of the Ohio Wholesale Marketers Association, thank you for the opportunity to provide a statement of support for Substitute House Bill 210, regarding the sale of used catalytic converters.

As background, OWMA's core membership is wholesalers who supply products to convenience stores and similar retailers in Ohio and the Midwest region. Their businesses rely on the ability to move products from their warehouses to the retail locations they supply, using well-thought-out delivery routes and schedules. Having part of their fleet of vehicles out of service due to catalytic converter theft is an expensive disruption that impacts not only their operations, but also the retailers who may not receive scheduled inventory for restocks.

OWMA's members are already struggling with finding enough drivers to keep all their delivery trucks on the road. Imagine being short staffed on drivers, which is already impacting delivery logistics, and discovering that some of your vans or trucks can't go out because catalytic converters were stolen. The theft of just one converter from a fleet of vehicles disrupts business operations. OWMA's members take security seriously, both in their warehouses and for their delivery vehicles, but that does not protect them from catalytic converter theft, even when trucks are in locked gated areas with security cameras.

In addition to the quick operation pivots that must happen when a vehicle is down, catalytic converter thefts are expensive in terms of repair costs and insurance premium impacts. A business shared from personal experience that the time to get replacement and repair parts also delays getting damaged vehicles back in service.

As you know, this bill was introduced and had hearings in the 134<sup>th</sup> and 135<sup>th</sup> legislation sessions. Substitute House Bill 210 reflects additions that came from the bill sponsors' conversations with law enforcement, prosecuting attorneys and scrap metal recycling industry representatives. OWMA appreciates that the bill is taking steps to categorize catalytic converters as special purchase articles under Ohio's scrap recycling laws, and we are hopeful that the enactment of the bill will deter catalytic converter theft from the vehicles of individuals and Ohio's businesses.

On behalf of OWMA's members, the committee's favorable consideration of Sub. House Bill 210 is appreciated.