



OHIO COUNCIL OF
RETAIL
MERCHANTS



February 4, 2026

The Honorable Nathan Manning
Chair
Senate Judiciary Committee
Ohio Senate
1 Capitol Square
Columbus, OH 43215

Chair Manning:

On behalf of the undersigned statewide business organizations, we write to you in strong support of House Bill 210.

The scourge of catalytic converter thefts impacts nearly all segments of industry in Ohio. Farmers, retailers, wholesalers, manufacturers, and businesses large and small, all continue to fall victim to these rampant crimes. Thieves often target businesses' fleet vehicles in addition to their customers' vehicles, sometimes stealing catalytic converters from both on the same night. The cost of parts and labor to replace a catalytic converter range between \$1,500 to \$3,000, which, due to inflation and supply chain constraints, is nearly triple the cost of the same repair when this bill was first introduced several years ago. That cost does not reflect the additional expenses related to the time spent submitting claims to insurance companies or the delayed delivery of goods occurring while fleet vehicles are undergoing repairs. Ohio is particularly vulnerable to these thefts due to our geographic location and extensive network of highways.

House Bill 210 is a crucial step towards stemming the tide of catalytic converter thefts in the Buckeye State. By requiring basic record keeping, limiting the amount of catalytic converters that can be sold without a license, and stipulating proof of ownership when these parts are sold, we can drastically reduce the easy access to quick cash for criminals. These are sensible regulations that target criminals without imposing undue burdens on reputable businesses.

For these reasons, we applaud the bill's sponsors for working to address this crucial issue and urge passage of House Bill 210.

Signed:

Ohio Chamber of Commerce
Ohio Council of Retail Merchants
Ohio Farm Bureau
Ohio Manufacturers' Association
Ohio Tire & Automotive Association
NFIB-Ohio