

**CROSSOVER BILL HB0871\_RichardKaplowitz\_FAV**

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**TESTIMONY ON CROSSOVER BILL HB#/0871 - POSITION: FAVORABLE**

**Business Regulation - Detached Catalytic Converters - Record-Keeping Requirements**

**TO:** Chair Beidle, Vice Chair Klausmeier and members of the Finance Committee

**FROM:** Richard Keith Kaplowitz

**My name is Richard Keith Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3. I am submitting this testimony in support of CROSSOVER BILL HB#/0871, Business Regulation - Detached Catalytic Converters - Record-Keeping Requirements**

This bill is an attempt to make much clearer the source for any catalytic convertor in the marketplace to ensure they are properly tracked and accounted for and not acquired through a theft. Kelly Blue Book, the guide to car and car component prices, has noted:

“There’s a significant black-market trade in catalytic converters because the rare metals that make them work started soaring in value. So, why is this car part a target for thieves? Catalytic converters are desirable to thieves because they include high-value metals that can be recycled and resold. Thieves can easily and quickly remove catalytic converters.”<sup>1</sup>

Vox.com points out in detail the reasons for the thefts:

“At first glance, catalytic converters seem like a weirdly specific part to steal. But there’s a reason for that — they’re rich in precious metals, such as platinum, palladium, and rhodium. A thief can earn a couple hundred bucks from a typical catalytic converter. (In the US, secondhand converters **aren’t reused in cars**. Rather, these parts eventually end up at refineries that process the metal.)”<sup>2</sup>

This bill will help law enforcement ensure that the theft of the converters and their disposal is more tightly monitored and controlled. **I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on CROSSOVER BILL HB#/0871.**

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.kbb.com/car-advice/catalytic-converter-theft/#:~:text=There's%20a%20significant%20black%20market,can%20be%20recycled%20and%20resold.>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.vox.com/2023/5/20/23728557/catalytic-converter-theft-scrap-price-replacement-toyota-prius-cars-insurance-protection>