

STATE OF NEW YORK

9754

IN SENATE

April 2, 2026

Introduced by Sen. COONEY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Transportation

AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, the general business law and the insurance law, in relation to imposing certain restrictions on catalytic converters

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. The vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding a new
2 article 12-E to read as follows:

ARTICLE 12-E

CATALYTIC CONVERTERS

3 Section 399-u. Catalytic converters.

4 § 399-u. Catalytic converters. 1. For the purposes of this article the
5 following terms shall have the following meanings:

6 (a) "Catalytic converter" means an exhaust emission control device
7 which modifies exhaust gas from an internal combustion engine by cata-
8 lyzing a redox reaction.

9 (b) "Used or scrap catalytic converter" means a catalytic converter
10 that was previously installed in a vehicle and which has been removed
11 from such vehicle in whole or in part.

12 2. A used or scrap catalytic converter shall only be purchased or
13 otherwise accepted by an entity which is licensed as either a scrap
14 processor or as a vehicle dismantler pursuant to this chapter.

15 3. A scrap processor or vehicle dismantler which purchases one or more
16 used or scrap catalytic converters shall:

17 (a) Record the date of purchase, the name of the seller, and the sell-
18 er's residential or business address;

19 (b) Make and retain a copy of the government issued photographic iden-
20 tification card used to verify the identity of any natural person from
21 whom such used or scrap catalytic converters were purchased; and

22 (c) Record the vehicle identification number, if any, affixed to each
23 such used or scrap catalytic converter purchased from a seller.

24 § 2. The vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding a new section
25 415-d to read as follows:
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EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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§ 415-d. Catalytic converter vehicle identification number requirements. No retail dealer shall sell a new or used motor vehicle or parts of vehicles for which a certificate of title has been issued by the commissioner or which would be eligible to have such a certificate of title issued unless the vehicle catalytic converter has been indelibly marked or engraved with the vehicle identification number of the vehicle.

§ 3. Section 69-e of the general business law, as added by chapter 431 of the laws of 1976, is amended to read as follows:

§ 69-e. Definitions. 1. "Scrap metal processing facility" shall mean an establishment engaged primarily in the purchase, processing and shipment of ferrous and/or non-ferrous scrap~~[, the end product of which is the production of raw material for remelting purposes for steel mills, foundaries, smelters, refiners, and similar users]~~ metal and/or end of life vehicles but shall not include a redemption center, dealer or distributor as such terms are defined in section 27-1003 of the environmental conservation law or an electronic waste collection, consolidation or recycling facility as such terms are defined in section 27-2601 of the environmental conservation law.

2. "Scrap processor" shall mean any person, association, partnership or corporation operating and maintaining a "scrap metal processing facility".

3. "Government issued photographic identification" shall mean any current and valid official form of identification issued by the government of the United States of America, a state, territory, protectorate, or dependency of the United States of America, a county, municipality or subdivision thereof, any public agency or department thereof, or any public employer, which requires and bears the photograph of the person to whom it is issued.

4. "Catalytic converter" shall mean an exhaust emission control device which modifies exhaust gas from an internal combustion engine by catalyzing a redox reaction.

5. "End of life vehicle" shall mean any motor vehicle sold, given, or otherwise disposed of as junk or salvage.

6. "Scrap catalytic converter" shall mean a catalytic converter that was previously installed in a vehicle and which has been removed from such vehicle in whole or in part.

§ 4. Section 69-g of the general business law, as amended by chapter 302 of the laws of 2007, is amended to read as follows:

§ 69-g. Records. 1. [~~Such~~] A scrap [processor] metal processing facility shall record [~~(i) each purchase of any pig or pigs of metal, bronze or brass castings or parts thereof, sprues or gates or parts thereof, utility wire or brass car journals, or of metal beer kegs, and (ii)~~] each purchase of [~~iron, steel~~] ferrous and/or nonferrous scrap or an end of life vehicle for a price of fifty dollars or more, and preserve such record for a period of three years; which record shall show the date of purchase, the name of the seller, [~~his~~] the seller's residence or business address [~~by street, number, city, village or town~~], the driver's license number or information from a government issued photographic identification card, [~~if any, of such person, or by such description as will reasonably locate the seller,~~] and the type and quantity of such purchase~~[, and the]~~. The scrap processor shall cause such record to be signed by the seller or [~~his~~] such seller's agent. It shall be unlawful for any seller to refuse to furnish such information or to furnish incorrect or incomplete information. Such scrap processor shall also make and retain a copy of the government issued photographic identifica-

1 tion card used to verify the identity of [~~the~~] any natural person from
2 whom the scrap metal was purchased and shall retain this copy in a sepa-
3 rate book, register or electronic archive [~~for two years from the date~~
4 ~~of purchase~~].

5 2. Such records shall be available for inspection by [~~the police~~
6 ~~department of the state or the municipality in which the establishment~~
7 ~~is located~~] law enforcement personnel or a state regulatory agency.

8 3. a. A scrap metal processing facility shall be licensed as a scrap
9 processor or a vehicle dismantler pursuant to section three hundred
10 ninety-nine-u of the vehicle and traffic law prior to the purchase
11 and/or acceptance of one or more scrap catalytic converters.

12 b. A scrap metal processing facility which purchases one or more scrap
13 catalytic converters shall:

14 (i) record the date of purchase, the name of the seller, and the sell-
15 er's residential or business address;

16 (ii) make and retain a copy of the government issued photographic
17 identification card used to verify the identity of any natural person
18 from whom such scrap catalytic converters were purchased; and

19 (iii) record the vehicle identification number, if any, affixed to
20 each such catalytic converter purchased from each seller.

21 4. No later than January first, two thousand twenty-seven, scrap metal
22 processing facilities and vehicle dismantling facilities shall install
23 and maintain an electronic video recording system at all customer scales
24 and at all points of sale located on the premises of the facility. Elec-
25 tronic video records shall be maintained in an electronic archive for a
26 period of no less than one hundred twenty days from the date when such
27 electronic video record was made. Such electronic video record shall be
28 available for inspection upon demand by law enforcement personnel or a
29 state regulatory agency.

30 § 5. Section 69-h of the general business law is renumbered section
31 69-i and two new sections 69-h and 69-j are added to read as follows:

32 § 69-h. Prior authorization for certain scrap metal purchases.
33 Notwithstanding any provision of law, rule or regulation to the contra-
34 ry, it shall be unlawful for a scrap metal processing facility to
35 purchase as scrap any metal items bearing markings of any governmental
36 entity, utility company, cemetery or railroad unless such items are
37 offered for sale by an employee or agent thereof with the express writ-
38 ten authorization of any such governmental entity, utility company,
39 cemetery or railroad.

40 § 69-j. Preemption of local laws. The provisions of sections sixty-
41 nine-g and sixty-nine-h of this article shall supersede and preempt all
42 rules, regulations, codes, statutes or ordinances of all cities, coun-
43 ties, municipalities and local agencies which would:

44 1. Regulate the purchase or sale of scrap metal or a vehicle part;

45 2. Impose record keeping or reporting requirements in a manner which
46 conflicts with or imposes additional record keeping requirements other
47 than those set forth within this article;

48 3. Require a scrap metal processing facility or a vehicle dismantling
49 facility to hold scrap material or a vehicle part for a specified period
50 of time prior to the processing or sale of said scrap material; or

51 4. Specify a manner of payment.

52 § 6. Section 69-i of the general business law, as added by chapter 431
53 of the laws of 1976 and as renumbered by section five of this act, is
54 amended to read as follows:

55 § 69-i. Penalty. 1. [~~Each violation of this article by a scrap proces-~~
56 ~~sor shall be a violation subject to a fine of not more than two hundred~~

1 ~~dollars, unless such violation shall be wilful, in which event it shall~~
2 ~~be a misdemeanor except, however, the scrap processor shall not be~~
3 ~~liable for any violation of this article by a seller, his agent, or a~~
4 ~~purported seller or agent] A person found to have violated a provision
5 of this article shall be guilty of a violation and liable for a fine of
6 not more than one thousand dollars and/or imprisonment for a term of not
7 more than fifteen days.~~

8 2. [~~Each violation of this article by a seller or his agent shall be a~~
9 ~~misdemeanor.~~] A person found to have violated any provision of this
10 article for a second time within a two-year period shall be guilty of a
11 misdemeanor and subject to a criminal fine of not more than five thou-
12 sand dollars and/or imprisonment for a term of not more than one year.

13 3. If a defendant has gained money or property through the commission
14 of any misdemeanor or violation pursuant to this section and upon
15 conviction thereof, the court, in lieu of imposing the fine authorized
16 for the offense pursuant to subdivision one or two of this section, may
17 sentence such defendant to pay an amount, fixed by the court, not to
18 exceed double the amount of such defendant's gain from the commission of
19 the offense.

20 § 7. Section 2336 of the insurance law is amended by adding a new
21 subsection (i) to read as follows:

22 (i) Any schedule of rates or rating plan for non-commercial private
23 passenger automobile insurance shall also provide for an actuarially
24 appropriate reduction in premium charges for property damage liability,
25 comprehensive and collision coverage with respect to automobiles
26 equipped with a catalytic converter upon which the vehicle identifica-
27 tion number of the vehicle has been marked or engraved.

28 § 8. This act shall take effect on the first of January next succeed-
29 ing the date on which it shall have become a law.