

D.A.B. Inc.

David A. Bolduc Pres. 207-229-4702

13 Allen Range Road

Freeport, Me. 04032

Thank you for the opportunity to address this forum. I've been doing business in Freeport for 30 years dba/ Allen Range Road used auto parts & Dave's Junkyard.

Regarding the sale of Catalytic Converters. Being in the auto salvage / scrap metal business between 150-250 scrap vehicles per week with and without Cats. The vehicles with cats are a vital part of our cash flow of our business. Being that a licensed inspection mechanic, being the only ones to be able to sell cats. I have no one in my company with an inspection license. This would definitely hamper my business in a significant way. With this being said, In my opinion we need something enacted to prevent the "HIGH" theft of catalytic converters. I have several good friends in several different business that have been victims of these thefts.

One in particular a friend that owns an RV and a used vehicle lot. He has been hit twice in the past month from Motor homes that have been replaced with new OEM cats just to have them stolen again. With the scrap value of the scrap converters, ranging from \$50.00 to \$2500.00 the highest value ones being targeted. I believe the problem with theft is the thieves themselves, but also lies on the illegal/unlicensed buyers. They advertise all their prices on FaceBook, Market place, Craigs List and other venues. The majority of the buyers advertising are unlicensed venders working out of the back of their pick/up trucks. I believe we need to License these buyers the same way as we are Licensed Recyclers. Licensed Recyclers all have a (brick & mortar facility) where if there is an issue every department of government knows where to find us.

I believe that if the average vehicle owner has a scrap catalytic converter to sell for scrap, they should have Identification, VIN# and proof of ownership of the vehicle that coincides with the cat being sold. (IE Ford cat, ford vin. GM cat, GM vin.) The only exception would be aftermarket cats with the lowest value. They are not stolen very often.

Being President of the Maine Automotive Recyclers Association, I have spoken to many other recyclers. We are all in agreement with something having to be done. We do not believe the wording in this bill is sufficient for all parties involved. I would like to reiterate that all Licensed Recyclers believe the major part of the problem is the theft, but also the thieves will have nowhere to sell the stolen cats except to a Licensed Buyer that can be accountable for buying a stolen product. I believe it will slow down the theft. Hopefully we can make something happen.