

RESOLUTION **RULES, ELECTIONS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS**

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, catalytic converters are devices that reduce pollution-causing emissions on all vehicles produced in the United States since 1975, utilizing precious metals inside the device as catalysts to help reduce contaminants from the vehicle's exhaust; and

WHEREAS, the prices of metals such as rhodium, platinum, and palladium inside of catalytic converters have increased dramatically in the last few years, and, as such, according to the National Insurance Crime Bureau, there has been a ten-fold increase in catalytic converter thefts since 2018, with more than 14,000 reported catalytic converters stolen in 2020; and

WHEREAS, currently there are three bills, AB 1740 (Muratsuchi), AB 2407 (O'Donnell) and SB 1087 (Gonzalez), which are pending in the State Legislature; and

WHEREAS, AB 1740 would require a core recycler who accepts catalytic converters for recycling purposes to maintain a written record that contains the year, make, and model of the vehicle from which the catalytic converter was removed, and prohibits a core recycler from entering into a transaction to purchase or receive a catalytic converter from a person that is not a commercial enterprise or owner of the vehicle from which the catalytic converter was removed; and

WHEREAS, AB 2407 would require a core recycler to report specified information collected about the purchase and sale of catalytic converters to local law enforcement and to request to receive theft alert notifications regarding the theft of catalytic converters from a specified theft alert system, as well as would require a core recycler to obtain the thumbprint of a seller of a catalytic converter and to preserve the thumbprint for 2 years, the inspection or seizure of which would be limited a criminal search warrant based on probable cause; and

WHEREAS, SB 1087 would require a traceable method of payment for catalytic converters, provide that the exemption for catalytic converters received pursuant to a written agreement is only valid if the written agreement also includes a regularly updated log or record describing each catalytic converter received under the agreement, and prohibit a core recycler or any person from purchasing a catalytic converter from anybody other than certain specified sellers; and

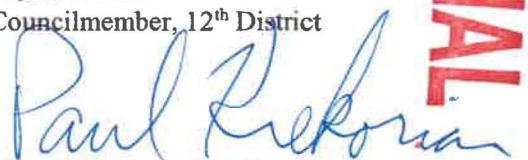
WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles should support these bills inasmuch as they seek to strengthen the laws governing the sale of used catalytic converters, making it more difficult for thieves to profit from selling stolen converters;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2021-2022 State Legislative Program support for AB 1740 (Muratsuchi), AB 2407 (O'Donnell) and SB 1087 (Gonzalez), which would seek to strengthen the laws governing the sale of used catalytic converters, thereby assisting law enforcement in reducing thefts and discouraging the commission of the crime.

PRESENTED BY:


JOHN S. LEE
Councilmember, 12th District

SECONDED BY:


Paul Krekorian

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JUN 8 2022

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