

Request for Cosponsors/Cosponsor Contacts

The “Preventing Auto Recycling Theft (PART) Act” ([H.R. 621/S. 154](#))

August 28, 2024

The National Automobile Dealers Association (NADA), representing over 16,500 franchised new car dealers nationwide, respectfully requests you cosponsor the "Preventing Auto Recycling Theft (PART) Act," (H.R. 621/S. 154).

Cosponsor Contacts:

House members who want to cosponsor H.R. 621 should have their staff contact:

- Tanner Brown (tanner.brown@mail.house.gov) with Rep. Jim Baird’s (R-Ind.) office or
- Erin Melody (erin.melody@mail.house.gov) with Rep. Betty McCollum’s (D-Minn.) office.

Senators who want to cosponsor S. 154 should have their staff contact:

- Baz Selassie (baz_selassie@klobuchar.senate.gov) with Sen. Amy Klobuchar’s (D-Minn.) office or
- Will Haines (will_haines@braun.senate.gov) with Sen. Mike Braun’s (R-Ind.) office.

We urge you to cosponsor the PART Act which provides local law enforcement the necessary support needed to combat rising catalytic converter theft. Please see the NADA issue brief [here](#), and press release on reintroduction [here](#). The PART Act was also filed as an amendment to [S. 4638](#), the National Defense Authorization Act, and an industry [letter](#) with over 115 [signatures](#) was sent to the leaders of the Armed Services Committees and Commerce Committees supporting passage of the amendment.

Along with NADA, H.R. 621/S. 154 is endorsed by: American Car Rental Association (ACRA), American Property Casualty Insurance Association (APCIA), American Rental Association, American Truck Dealers (ATD), American Trucking Associations (ATA), Automotive Recyclers Association (ARA), CAR Coalition, Elite Catering and Event Professionals (ECEP), Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA), Major County Sheriffs of America, National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT), National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies (NAMIC), National Auto Auction Association (NAAA), NAFA - The Fleet Management Association, NAMA - the National Automatic Merchandising Association, National Consumers League (NCL), National District Attorneys Association, National Independent Automobile Dealers Association (NIADA), National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB), National Private Truck Council, National RV Dealers Association (RVDA), National Salvage Vehicle Reporting Program (NSVRP), NTEA — The Association for the Work Truck Industry, the Truck Renting and Leasing Association (TRALA) and UPS.

Background

The theft of catalytic converters has become rampant in the past few years, plaguing vehicle owners, small businesses, scrap yards, and law enforcement officials in communities across the United States. The number of catalytic converter thefts increased by nearly 900% between 2019 and 2023. Stolen catalytic converters can garner anywhere from \$20 to \$350 on the black market, with the replacement cost to vehicle owners averaging over \$2,500. Thefts of catalytic converters have turned [violent](#), and recently in a highly publicized [tragedy](#), a soap opera actor lost his life after confronting thieves stealing his converter.

H.R. 621/S. 154 provides a national framework to help law enforcement combat rising catalytic converter theft.

Because this crime frequently involves trafficking stolen parts across state lines, a federal framework is needed to aid the efforts of local law enforcement. Currently, unless a thief is caught in the act of stealing a catalytic converter, there is no way to tie the stolen part to a specific vehicle. Specifically, the bill:

- Requires new vehicles to have unique, traceable identifying numbers stamped on catalytic converters at the time of assembly.
- Establishes a grant program through which certain entities can voluntarily stamp VINs, or other identifiers, onto the catalytic converters of vehicles already on the road at no cost to vehicle owners.
- Provides that catalytic converter transactions are recorded and made readily accessible to law enforcement officials to ensure bad actors are caught within the chain of commerce.
- Establishes a federal criminal penalty for the theft, sale, trafficking or known purchase of stolen catalytic converters of up to five years in jail.