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## Senate Sends Rep. Rettinger's Catalytic Converter Theft Bill to the Governor's Desk

Freshman Lawmaker's Public Safety Measure was Approved Unanimously this week by the State Senate

Madison – The Catalytic Converter Theft Accountability Act or Assembly Bill 637, introduced by Representative Nik Rettinger (R-Mukwonago) in conjunction with the Waukesha County District Attorney's Office, was passed by a unanimous voice vote on the Senate floor. This followed a 7-0 vote out of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety. AB 637 now heads to Governor Evers' Desk for his signature. Following passage, Rep. Rettinger said:

"I am proud to have yet another public safety measure headed to the Governor. It is no secret that catalytic converter thefts have only grown more rampant across Wisconsin in recent years. These thieves are able to saw off a catalytic converter in 50 seconds, boldly stealing from public places such as schools, businesses, and apartment parking lots. This legislation will streamline the process of prosecution to ensure these criminal actors are brought to justice."

AB 637 adds catalytic converters to the state's list of parts that are considered a "major part" of an automobile. The bills has broad, bipartisan support in both chambers and additionally received support from a host of law enforcement groups such as the Wisconsin State Lodge Fraternal Order of Police, insurance groups such as AAA Wisconsin, and the City of Milwaukee. The bill now awaits action by the Governor.

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