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**To: Members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment**

**From:** Sheriff Pat Garrett, Washington County  
On behalf of the Oregon State Sheriffs' Association and Oregon Association of Chiefs of Police  
[Patrick\\_Garrett@co.washington.or.us](mailto:Patrick_Garrett@co.washington.or.us)

**Date:** March, 16 2021

**Re: Testimony in Support SB 803 - Catalytic Converter Registration**

**Chair Beyer and members of the committee,**

On behalf of the Oregon State Sheriff's Association (OSSA) and the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police OACP), thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 803 which seeks to address the growing number of catalytic converter thefts throughout Oregon.

OSSA and OACP members have seen a troubling rise in catalytic converter thefts, particularly in the metro areas of the state. We believe this measure will reduce the level of theft and will provide an improved ability to investigate and apprehend individuals responsible for the theft of catalytic converters when they occur. In past sessions, OSSA and OACP supported similar measures that required persons pawning an item to provide identification at the time the item is being purchased by a pawn/loan company. These types of preventative steps have helped to reduce stolen items from being sold to pawn/loan companies and provide law enforcement with needed information from pawn/loan companies when they discover they are in possession of a stolen item.

OSSA and OACP support SB 803 which would limit the sale of catalytic converters to registered businesses. It provides that any person selling a catalytic converter must provide a business address, present ID, and provide the driver's license and vehicle identification number (VIN) of the vehicle from which the catalytic converter was taken. This will create a law enforcement traceable record that will make it easier to find and apprehend those who engage in catalytic converter theft, drying up the secondary market in catalytic converters for all but legitimate business sellers.

OSSA and OACP recognizes that this measure may not address all avenues for sales of catalytic converters, such as out of state sales and sales on virtual/social media platforms. That said, we believe this measure is an important step in the right direction.

Thank you for your consideration!