Proposed law creates the crime of "theft of a catalytic converter", which is misappropriation or taking of a catalytic converter which belongs to another, either without the consent of the owner to the misappropriation or taking, or by means of fraudulent conduct, practices, or representations. Proposed law further provides that an intent to deprive the owner permanently of the catalytic converter is essential.

Proposed law provides for the following penalties:

(1) When the misappropriation or taking amounts to a value of $25,000 or more, the offender is to be imprisoned, at hard labor, for not less than 10 years nor more than 20 years, or fined not more than $50,000, or both.

(2) When the misappropriation or taking amounts to a value of $5,000 or more, but less than $25,000, the offender is to be imprisoned, with or without hard labor, for not less than five years nor more than 10 years, or fined not more than $10,000, or both.

(3) When the misappropriation or taking amounts to a value of $1,000 or more, but less than $5,000, the offender is to be imprisoned, with or without hard labor, for not less than two years nor more than five years, or fined not more than $3,000, or both.

(4) When the misappropriation or taking amounts to a value of less than $1,000, the offender is to be imprisoned for not less than 90 days nor more than six months, or fined not more than $1,000, or both.

Proposed law further provides that if the offender has been convicted two or more times of theft of catalytic converter, upon any subsequent conviction, he is to be imprisoned, with or without hard labor, for an additional year to be served consecutively, or may be fined not more than an additional $2,000, or both.

Effective August 1, 2022.

(Adds R.S. 14:67.12)