Abstract: Prohibits a person from purchasing a used catalytic converter unless certain conditions are met.

Proposed law defines "catalytic converter", "commission", "person", and "catalytic converter purchaser".

Proposed law requires a person to be licensed in order to do business as a catalytic converter purchaser.

A person applying for a license pursuant to proposed law shall make an application in person.

Proposed law requires a licensed purchaser to hold a separate license for each place of business where he purchases used catalytic converters.

Proposed law requires the Louisiana Used Motor Vehicle Commission (commission) to create a form to be used as an application for licensure and provides the required information the form is to contain.

Proposed law requires an applicant to sign the application and pay all applicable fees prior to obtaining a license.

Proposed law requires a late fee be paid for a license renewal, if the original license is expired prior to application for renewal.

A person who ceases to maintain a business shall surrender his license pursuant to proposed law.

Proposed law requires the commission to indicate the business address on each license and requires the license holder to notify the commission if the address changes.

The commission is required to promulgate rules to implement provisions of proposed law.

Proposed law does not apply to persons buying and selling new motor vehicles or persons having one detached converter, if he can show where it originated through documentation.

Proposed law requires a seller of a used catalytic converter to provide certain documentation to the law enforcement upon request.
Information collected pursuant to proposed law shall be maintained for three years.

A violation of proposed law subjects the person in violation to fees and imprisonment. The amount of the fee and duration of the imprisonment increases with each subsequent violation, and each catalytic converter purchased in violation of proposed law constitutes a separate violation.

(Adds R.S. 37:1891-1896)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Provide that proposed law does not apply to a person having one detached catalytic converter if he can document how he legally acquired it.

2. Remove the requirement that the application provide for the applicant's financial standing and business integrity.

3. Add a requirement that a purchaser obtain a photograph of the item purchased.

4. Add a requirement that a purchaser obtain a signed statement by the seller.

5. Mandates that a violator be fined and imprisoned.

6. Make technical changes.