Proposed Int. No. 759-A

By Council Members Lee, Holden, Hanks, Brooks-Powers, Velázquez, Mealy, Restler, Farías, Schulman, Won, Hanif, Riley, Abreu, Louis, Joseph, Brannan, Williams, Dinowitz, Brewer and Ariola

..Title

A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to a catalytic converter etching program and the unlawful possession and sale of catalytic converters

..Body

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 1 of title 10 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended by adding new sections 10-185 and 10-186 to read as follows:

§ 10-185 Catalytic converter etching program. a. Definitions. For purposes of this section, the term “etching” means the affixing or engraving of a unique identifying number onto a catalytic converter of a motor vehicle by the police department or with a kit provided by the police department.

b. Etching program for the public. Subject to appropriation, the police department shall establish a program to:

1. Provide etching to the public; and

2. Engage in an outreach campaign to inform the public about the etching program and the means by which etching may prevent theft of catalytic converters.

c. Prohibited conduct. No person shall remove, obliterate, or tamper with a unique identifying number etched onto a catalytic converter that such person does not own. Violation of this subdivision shall constitute a misdemeanor.

§ 10-186 Unlawful possession or sale of catalytic converters. a. No person, other than a person engaged in a business that deals in motor vehicles or vehicle parts, or who works delivering any such motor vehicles or vehicle parts, shall possess, or sell, five or more second-hand catalytic converters, or three or more second-hand catalytic converters that demonstrate indicia of having been unlawfully removed from motor vehicles, including, but not limited to, the removal, obliteration, or tampering with a unique identifying number etched onto a second-hand catalytic converter, or any apparent physical alteration to a second-hand catalytic converter. Possession or sale of five or more second-hand catalytic converters, or three or more second-hand catalytic converters that demonstrate indicia of having been unlawfully removed from motor vehicles, shall create a rebuttable presumption that such person intended to violate this section. A person seeking to rebut such presumption shall provide evidence of proof of ownership of the second-hand catalytic converters possessed or sold by such person.

b. Violation of this section shall constitute a misdemeanor.

§ 2. This local law takes effect 90 days after it becomes law.

NAB/RMC

LS #9954/10082

10/14/22 3:54PM