



*Automotive Service Councils of California*

*Professionals in Automotive Service - Since 1940*  
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## **ASCCA Legislative Update by Jack Molodanof**

### **April 2022**

#### **LEGISLATIVE BILLS**

##### **Catalytic Converter Theft Bills**

AB 1622 - Requires smog shops to provide signs informing customers about strategies for deterring converter theft, including etching of identifying information on the converter. Status: Transportation.

AB 1653 - Creates a Task Force to assist local law enforcement to identify geographic areas experiencing high level of property crimes Status: Appropriations.

AB 1659 - Revises the definition of auto dismantler to include a person who keeps or maintains 2 or more used converters not attached to a motor vehicle; Status: Transportation.

AB 1740 - Requires core recyclers who accept converters to maintain specified written records.  
Status: Business & Professions.

AB 1984 - a peace officer need not have actual knowledge that converter is stolen to establish probable cause for arrest. Status: Transportation.

AB 2398 - possession of detached converter would be a crime, either a misdemeanor or felony.  
Status: Public Safety.

AB 2407 - "spot bill", meaning it's a place holder for legislation relating to theft of converters.  
Status: Assembly.

AB 2682 - Any ARD that installs or replaces a catalytic converter shall ensure that it is engraved or otherwise marked with VIN and smog station shall notify customer whether or not converter engraved with VIN. Status: Transportation.

SB 919 - prohibits a dealer from selling a vehicle unless converter has been engraved, etched, or permanently marked with VIN. Status: Business and Professions.

SB 986 - Requires core recyclers who accept converters to maintain specified written records and prohibits a dealer from selling a vehicle unless converter has been engraved, etched, or permanently marked with VIN.  
Status: Business and Professions.

SB 1087 - Requires core recyclers who accept converters to maintain specified written records and prohibits any person from purchasing used converter other than a dismantler or auto repair dealer.  
Status: Business and Professions.

SB 1288 - a place holder dealing with tampering or removing any part of vehicle. Status: Senate.

##### **Employment Bills**

AB 1993 - Concerns - requires employers to require employees to show proof of that employee has been vaccinated against covid-19. Status: Assembly.

AB 1949 - provides for 5 days of employee bereavement leave. Status: Labor.

AB 1761 - Permits non-exempt employees to request flexible work schedules. Status: Labor.

##### **Employer Tax Credits**

SB 1349 - Support - Allows for \$1,000 state tax credit for each employee hired by employer.  
Status: Senate.

## **Career Tech Bills**

AB 2058 - This bill would increase state career tech funding to \$450 million annually instead of \$300 million annually. Status: Education.

AB 2088 - Establishes a Pilot Paid Internship Program to help prepare pupils for high-skill jobs of the future. Status: Education.

## **STATE BUDGET**

The Governor's budget includes funding for the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) to implement last year's SB 158, which created a new Hazardous waste oversight Board and the subsequent increase in hazardous waste fees.

## **BAR REGULATIONS**

AB 471 Implementation. BAR continues to move forward to implement last year's AB 471 through regulations, which include, an informal appeal process for citations, creating an independent 3-member panel to hear citation appeals, remedial training and provider certification, storage fee clarification and vehicle safety inspection program. BAR is prioritizing the regulation packages and planning for more frequent workshops in 2022.

Cite & Fine. BAR is proposing citation and fine regulations which would provide the BAR the ability to issue citations and fines to auto repair facilities, up to \$5,000 per citation. The BAR has held three workshops on these proposed regulations. Due to the passage of AB 471, the regulations will include the ability for shops to informally appeal citations before an independent panel and the option to take remedial training to prevent the citation from being posted on the BAR website. Concerns have been raised that any citations and fines issued must be based on objective and fair and reasonable guidelines. The BAR is working to address concerns raised by the industry.

BAR Remedial Training. As part of the implementation of AB 471, BAR is held a workshop re: remedial training for ARD's and provider certification. The regulations, among other things, provide those trainers must obtain BAR provider certification, courses shall be a minimum of 8 hours of training and students must obtain a minimum test score of 70%. There were minimum comments and regulations did not appear to be controversial. BAR expecting to have regulations approved early next year.

Vehicle Safety Inspection. BAR continues to work on a vehicle safety inspection program which will combine the current brake and lamp inspection and expand the vehicle inspection requirements. BAR is still reaching out to stakeholders for feedback on what additional inspections should be conducted as part of the inspection program. See link for questionnaire. <https://www.aftermarketmatters.com/regions/northern-california/bar-launches-vehicle-safety-inspection-program-questionnaire/>

BAR Advisory Group Committee Meeting. The next meeting will be held April 21, 2022. We also expect a regulation workshop, dealing with AB 471 implementation, to take place on the same day. We plan on attending and reporting.