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# Wisconsin Legislative Council

## ACT MEMO

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**2021 Wisconsin Act 189**  
[2021 Senate Bill 408]

**Scrap Metal Dealer Purchase of  
Catalytic Converters**

### **BACKGROUND**

Under current law, a scrap metal dealer must check a person's identification and ownership documentation when purchasing certain metal and other articles from a person. Metal and other articles include items identified in the statutes, such as copper conductors, metal beer kegs, manhole covers, and stamped metal telecommunications articles. If a person does not have ownership documentation, a scrap metal dealer may purchase the metal or other article after diligent inquiry into lawful possession, and must report the purchase to law enforcement by the end of the next business day.

A scrap metal dealer must also maintain records of metal and other identified article transactions for two years and make the records available to law enforcement upon request.

### **2021 WISCONSIN ACT 189**

2021 Wisconsin Act 189 adds catalytic converters to the metal and other articles identified in the statutes that are subject to the transaction and recordkeeping requirements.

**Effective date:** March 19, 2022

MSK:jal