

**February 6, 2013**  
**Testimony in Support of SB-6**

**Honorable Chair Senator Jeff King,  
Vice-Chair Senator Greg Smith,  
Ranking Minority Member Senator David Haley and other Honorable Members of  
this Committee**

On New Year's Day this year I received phone calls from several constituents concerned about their suspended driver's licenses. The individuals had received traffic violations, but could not afford to pay their fines. This resulted in suspended licenses.

I remembered a bill passing in 2009 that allowed individuals with suspended licenses to apply for a restricted reinstatement through the division of vehicles. The restricted license allows individuals to retain insurance and drive legally to necessary places such as work or school while issuing payments on their fines. So, I instructed my constituents to contact the division of vehicles.

After contacting the division of vehicles, it was discovered that the bill passed in 2009 had sunset, or expired, January 1, 2012. I have introduced a bill in collaboration with Kansas House Representative Gail Finney (D-Wichita) that would repeal this sunset and reinstate the legislation passed unanimously by the senate in 2009.

Without the bill, drivers with suspended licenses often drive illegally without insurance and their fines are turned over to collections agencies resulting in added costs for the state. In some cases, the suspended licenses prevent individuals from working all together.

Reinstating the bill would allow individuals with suspended licenses that have resulted from unpaid fines related to traffic violations to submit an application with a \$25 non-refundable application fee to the division of vehicles. Upon approval, applicants receive a restricted driver's license and are allowed to drive to work so they can make wages to pay their fines. It also allows them to obtain insurance and drive legally. Plus, it has no cost to the state and the division of vehicles is already equipped to handle it. This bill is a win-win for everyone.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Senator Oletha Faust-Goudeau

Senate Judiciary Committee  
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Attachment: 1