

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE  
SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE**

**REGARDING SENATE BILL 123  
RELATING TO IGNITION INTERLOCK, FIRST TIME OFFENDERS**

**February 14, 2017**

Mr. Chairman and Committee Members:

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) is providing written testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 123, which removes the required ignition interlock requirement for first time DUI offenders.

In 2015, 84 people were killed and more than 1,300 persons were injured in motor vehicle crashes due to impaired driving. A proven countermeasure to address this problem is the installation of an ignition interlock for all DUI offenders. Requiring an ignition interlock not only improves public safety, but is also a tool to hold the offender accountable.

In 2017, KDOT qualified for a \$260,000 grant from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration specifically because Kansas has a mandatory ignition interlock requirement for all DUI offenders. This federal funding will be used to support the Kansas Department of Revenue, Division of Motor Vehicles administration of the state's ignition interlock program. This funding will also allow KDOT to enhance current and develop new programs to combat impaired driving.

KDOT will not qualify for future grants of this nature if the mandatory ignition interlock requirement is removed for first-time DUI offenders. So again, KDOT stands in opposition to SB 123.