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Testimony in Support of Senate Bill-143
Expanded Eligibility for Restricted Drivers' License

Senate Transportation Committee
Chair, Senator Mike Petersen
Vice Chair, Senator Dan Goddard
Ranking Minority Member, Senator Pat Pettey
Committee Members

Good morning Honorable Chair and members of the Committee,

Thank you for reading my written testimony in support of amending S.B. 143. The success of present law, *bringing more Kansans back into compliance with Driver's License statutes*, justifies expansion of the statute's benefits to more citizens. As a fifth generation Kansan I am proud of our intentional efforts to create laws that help all citizens. *Please hear me!*

Those persons who previously received a traffic citation for Driving on Suspended or have a Revoked DL have not been able to get a restricted license. The trap they get into when they are under a suspended or revoked DL and driving: **they risk going to jail every day**. These are everyday Kansas citizens who may be school teachers, your neighbor or a church member who due to financial challenges has been unable to pay a traffic citation. Consequently the fines and fees for the original citation become impossible to pay. ***This is especially true for low-income Kansans. There is NO WAY OUT!!***

This law expands on the original intent of the current statute creating a Restricted License Law in Kansas. I applaud this committee for their insight in originally passing this statute. A good mark of successful legislation is when it works. This law works and there is every reason to expand the impact it can have on the lives of our neighbors.

I sincerely ask you to affirm the success of the current statute by passing this amending language and expanding eligibility for restricted drivers' licenses in Kansas.

Very Truly Yours,
David H. Wilkinson