

Testimony in Support of HB2193 as Amended

By LaWanda DeShazer (wanwan@sbcglobal.net)

House Transportation Chairman Proehl, Vice Chair, Delperdang, Ranking Minority Member Helgerson and Committee members.

The ability to drive, is a staple of every home in America. Unfortunately, due to circumstances and the inability to pay fines, many have lost the privilege to be able to drive. Thankfully, many elected officials and community groups have worked hard since 2012 to change Kansas laws so that people who cannot afford to pay the full amount of a traffic fine plus the associated court costs within 30 days do not have their driver's license suspended.

The Bill will allow a person to plead guilty or not guilty without having to appearing in court plus arrange a payment plan and/or community service without having their license suspended. HB2193 will reduces the reinstatement fee from \$100 per charge to \$100 per case. It will also assist the courts to receive millions in unpaid fines without putting citizens in jail or fining them up to \$1,500 more each time they are stopped. As a result, over 230,000 Kansans will once again be able to drive legally to jobs in which they will have the ability to earn enough money to pay their original traffic fines and have the ability to provide for themselves and their families.

As a citizen of Kansas, I fully support HB2193 and urge that it be approved and ultimately signed by the governor during this 2021 session.

Thank you in advance,

LaWanda DeShazer
Wichita, KS