



RACIAL PROFILING ADVISORY BOARD OF WICHITA



Testimony in Support of SB 2

Presented by Sheila Officer, Chair Racial Profiling Advisory Board

Revoking a driver's license should be used *to keep unsafe drivers off the road*, not as a **“debt collection tool”**, that has proven to be UNPRODUCTIVE, and punitive!

Can **you** as a legislator, and providing family member imagine having no dependable, viable, continuous legal means of transportation to go about your everyday tasks? i.e., getting to work, kids to school, grocery store, doctor's appointment?

Well now, imagine the **thousands** of Kansans who struggle with this **dilemma daily; how can I transport my family with no DL?** Families having to choose whether to drive and risk further arrest, prosecution, incarceration, and yes, more, financial debt; or **don't drive** and contribute to the increased poverty cycle, downfall, and separation of your family?

And WHY? Because you are a safety risk to the roads? NO, because you cannot afford to pay the fines, fees, and other State assessed financial debt demanded against you to get your license back.

And WHY? Because there are no provisions from the courts or the legislature that provide a motorist with a REVOKED license, financial relief. Because this bill with expungement provisions, will allow those classified as “habitual violators” an opportunity to apply and obtain a hardship license.

- *I support SB2, and adamantly and urgently ask that you implement the necessary language provisions for those classified as “habitual violators” to obtain relief, and that you then support it, and pass the bill as well.*

And WHY? Because it is “commonsense legislation.”

As a member of this committee, if you are still in doubt about the impact SB 2 will have on the thousands of Kansas families, ask yourself these questions before you vote:

- 1) *How will your yes or no vote impact the communities that sent you here?*
- 2) *Are driver license suspensions/revocations related to dangerous driving, or safety of the road; and is this the State's main concern when revoking driving privileges?*
- 3) *If states want people to pay their fines, tickets, and fees, then why is the state applying a barrier which prevents people to work to do just that?*
- 4) *Has revocation and suspension of DL made Kansas more financially solvent?*

Revocation of DL is “bad public policy.” Policy that is detrimental, devastating, punitive and poverty driven to Kansas families.

I urge and request this legislative body to support, work and pass SB 2 for more “commonsense legislation”.

Thank you.

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