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SENATE CHAMBER  
OLETHA FAUST-GOUDEAU  
ASSISTANT MINORITY LEADER

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

RANKING MEMBER: FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS  
ETHICS, ELECTIONS &  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT

JOINT COMMITTEES

MEMBER: RULES AND REGULATIONS  
FOR STATE AGENCIES  
CORRECTIONS AND JUVENILE  
JUSTICE OVERSIGHT

February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021

Testimony in Support of SB 100

Senate Transportation Committee

Chair Sen. Mike Petersen

Vice Chair Sen. J.R. Claeys

Ranking Minority Member Sen. Tom Hawk

Good morning Mr. Chairman and other distinguished members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 100.

A few years ago, we passed a law allowing individuals with a suspended drivers' license to apply for a restricted license and pay a non-refundable fee to drive to work, school, church, court, and doctors' appointments while maintaining car insurance and making payments on traffic fines. The Department of Revenue/Driver Control reports that many have applied and received a restricted license fines were collected in their department and locally. That is a "Win, Win" situation. However, many applications were denied for various reasons. I began tracking current law and attended a Suspended Drivers' License Workshop two summers ago as a panelist with Wichita Police Chief Gordon Ramsey, attorneys, a staff person with Drivers Control, along with the Racial Profiling Board, who participated over the phone during the workshop to answer questions from almost 300 people in attendance. What we discovered at the workshop, being the main reason that some individuals could not participate in current law and receive a restricted license, was that they were in a revoked status (Driving while suspended). I also worked with Peter Ninemire and Melissa Lubbers of the Caring Center of Wichita to try to address this issue.

This bill includes those drivers with certain conditions and will help so many people affected by this issue by allowing them to drive back and forth to work, school, etc., while making payments towards their fines. It also will remove other barriers that prevent reinstatement regarding drivers' licenses, which you will hear about from other conferees here today. I truly believe that without your help, it is very unlikely that some Kansans, because of high traffic fines that have accumulated for them over the years, they will never be able to drive legally again.

Thank you for your time and attention. I urge you to support SB 100.

Sincerely,

Sen. Oletha Faust Goudeau