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**Testimony to the Senate Judiciary Committee
In Support of HB2216
March 21, 2023**

Chair Warren and Committee Members:

Our associations support HB2216. We have worked with various legislators over the past few years to make modifications to the statutes on driver's licenses suspensions for fail to pay or fail to appear in court, as provided in KSA 8-2110. Our goals in those efforts are to maintain meaningful sanctions for those that make no effort to pay their fines or appear in court, while not being overly restrictive in the sanction. It is important to understand there are only two ways left for us to hold a person accountable for the fines assessed based on traffic violations they have committed. One is to suspend the driver's license, the other is to send the fines to collections.

The other concern we have voice is only supporting changes to suspended driver's license laws directly related to the fail to pay/fail to appear suspensions and not to reduce the suspension sanctions for excessive traffic violations, no insurance, or other serious traffic offenses such as DUI, vehicular homicide, etc.

HB2216 meets these standards. It will remove the mandatory jail sentence for driving while suspended if the suspension was solely for fail to appear/fail to pay as provided in KSA 8-2110. It does not change the sentence for driving related suspensions.

We believe this change makes sense. We encourage you to pass the bill favorably.

Sheriff Jeffrey Easter
Sedgwick County
Kansas Sheriffs Association Legislative Committee Chair