

# **Testimony in Support of SB100 as Amended**

**By Faith Martin, 608 S. Drury Lane, Wichita, KS 67207**

## **Senate Transportation Chairman Petersen, Vice-Chair Claeys, Ranking Minority Member Hawks and Committee members.**

140,000 Kansans had their driver's license suspended because of insufficient funds to pay original traffic fines and court costs within the 30 days required by State statute. This means there are 140,000 court cases that could be cleared if you work and pass SB100.

The Department of Revenue suspends driver's licenses in an attempt to collect a debt for Kansas municipal and district courts. With no legal way to drive, jobs are lost which can lead to welfare, homelessness, or jail which are all a drain on Kansas taxpayers which could be alleviated if you work and pass SB100.

In a unanimous ruling in *Timbs v. Indiana*, the Supreme Court decided that "exorbitant tolls" cannot be used to fine people or seize property from those accused of a crime. Kansas cannot circumvent the Excessive Fines Clause of the Eighth Amendment and will be in compliance if you work and pass SB100.

### **These amendments will do the following:**

- 1) Allow drivers to agree to payment plans and/or community service prior to Court.
- 2) Eliminate all reinstatement, collection, and application fees.
- 3) Allow legal driving while completing Community Service and/or making payments.
- 4) Allow Kansas Courts to withdraw arrest warrants and remove additional fines, fees, or imprisonment plus the 90-day delay before a person can have their license reinstated.

### **If this body works and passes SB100:**

- 1) Valuable Court resources can be saved.
- 2) Less warrants will need to be issued for failure to appear.
- 3) Drivers will be able to afford to pay their original fines and court costs.
- 4) Thousands of Court cases can be cleared.
- 5) The State of Kansas can be in Constitutional compliance.
- 6) Millions of dollars can be received back into the courts.