



Senate Committee on Transportation

Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 2

Presented by Eric Stafford, Vice President of Government Affairs

Tuesday, January 24, 2023

Mister Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Eric Stafford, Vice President of Government Affairs for the Kansas Chamber. The Kansas Chamber appreciates the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 2, which offers a limited scope of application for individuals to apply for a waiver to receive a restricted license when a driver's license has been suspended for failure to comply with a traffic citation.

Our 2023 legislative agenda states that we "Support criminal justice reform efforts and programs that offer the opportunity for individuals with criminal records to reenter the workforce." We must take a close look at state laws which create a barrier for employment and economic independence for Kansans. If someone faces a suspended license for minor traffic citations, they will no doubt find it difficult to commute to work and could face the loss of a job and economic hardship because of restrictive laws. Offering restricted driving privileges in these circumstances is a reasonable policy decision.

In closing, we believe Senate Bill 2 takes a positive step in eliminating barriers to employment. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of the bill, and I'm happy to answer any questions you might have at the appropriate time.