

## The Capitol Lobby Group

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Kevin A. Barone

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Date: 2/14/2017

RE: OPPOSITION to SB123

Senate Judiciary Committee,

Chairman, members of the committee my name is Kevin Barone and I am here on behalf of the Kansas Ignition Interlock Association in opposition to SB123. The KIIA is part of a DUI working group through the Dept. of Revenue Driver Solutions. This group is made up of members from Ks Highway Patrol, M.A.D.D., KDOT, the Ignition Interlock Industry, KDOR Driver Solution. Its goal is to work with KDOR to find ways to make the roads safer while streamlining the process for all the parties involved when dealing with a DUI in Kansas.

Kansas has come a long way since the passage of the first-time offender law. This law came to be after a two year DUI commission study done by this legislature in 2010 and 2011. That commission had 35 members all whom were stakeholders in the DUI world. The commission supported and pushed for the first-time offender law. At the time the fatality rate with DUI was approx. 134 people per year. After the first-time offender law was passed, the next year the fatalities were down about 50%. This is a law that saved lives from the very beginning and continues to today.

The ignition interlock program run by the state of Kansas has been truly successful. In working with the industry and the stakeholders involved, the State has made it fair for everyone. For example, the indigent program requires each company to keep a portion of the net profits specifically for those that cannot afford the normal cost. Usually if a person qualifies for indigence (receives food stamps from the state) it is free installation and less than \$2 per day for the interlock. The program involves discounts on installation, removal and monthly fee. We are currently working with the Dept. to make the indigent program even easier.

Keep in mind that in today's world of smart phones, watches, uber, lyft drinking and driving is unacceptable. By passing SB123 we are moving Kansas backwards in dealing with DUI's. We would be allowing people who get DUI's to get a pass. Suspending licenses does not stop people from driving and that is what this bill does. Kansas has been in the top 5 nationwide of states in dealing with DUI's. There is no reason to go back on the commitment made to the citizens of Kansas that they will be safe as possible on the roads. I ask you to oppose SB123 and do not pass this bill out of committee.

Thank you again for your time and consideration.

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