



**Kansas Association of
Chiefs of Police**

PO Box 2163
Hutchinson, KS 67504
(620)899-4122



**Kansas Sheriffs
Association**

PO Box 1122
Pittsburg, KS 66762
(620)230-0864



**Kansas Peace Officers
Association**

PO Box 2592
Wichita, KS 67201
(316)722-8433

**Testimony to the Senate Judiciary Committee
In Support of SB500
February 15, 2024**

Chairwoman Warren and Committee Members:

Our associations support SB500, addressing issues surrounding the suspension of driver's license for failure to pay or failing to appear in court for traffic violations. Without going into detailed description of everything the bill does, we will summarize what we believe is key provisions in the bill.

Several years ago, a provision we added to the law allows defendants meeting certain conditions to apply for a restricted license while attempting to get things in order with the court. This is a provision we supported. This has had some success, but for whatever reason many people do not take advantage of it. This bill would simply start the defendant in a restricted license, then provide them a time period to come into compliance. If they choose not to come into compliance the license would be suspended.

Another key point is changing the wording so the court "may" impose the sanctions instead of "shall." The bill also changes the requirement from the fine must be paid in full to the defendant must be complying with orders of the court. These things will allow the courts more latitude to work with people in the payment of their fines without being in noncompliance.

We have worked with various Senator and Representatives over the past 5-6 years on this issue. SB500 is the most comprehensive bill we have seen. The bill still allows the courts to hold violators of the law accountable, an important feature of the bill that allows us to support it. But it also decreases many of the hurdles the current sanctions contribute to.

We urge you to move this bill forward favorably.

Ed Klumpp
Legislative Liaison
eklumpp@cox.net
(785) 640-1102