



**Kansas State NAACP  
Proponent Testimony on SB 2  
Tuesday, January 24, 2023**

Thank you to the committee for providing an opportunity to present before you as a proponent of SB 2.

On behalf of the Kansas NAACP, the passage of this bill is extremely important to our members and citizens in the State of Kansas. Unfortunately life happens and productive citizens who have their license suspended can find themselves in a deeper hole with the added compilation of fees.

It is very telling and significant that in 2021, Kansas ranked 6th with the highest suspension rate in the country, 71% of new suspensions were due to unpaid tickets, court costs, and/or fines and over 134,000 drivers were suspended due to unpaid fines and fees according to Kansas Appleseed, an organization that works with community partners to understand the root causes of problems, support strong grassroots coalitions, and advocate for comprehensive solutions.

The passage of this bill can be an effective solution to reduce suspensions and reverse hardships endured in our community.

Before, during and after the COVID Pandemic, we have citizens who are feeling the extreme financial challenges once they are exposed to the legal environment as they also try to provide balance between challenges and the reality of keeping a job to care for their families and/or going to school to better their opportunities.

The passage of SB 2 is a helpful option as it focuses on assisting drivers rather than penalizing them for circumstances that may sometimes be beyond their control. It will allow those disproportionately and adversely impacted to seek an immediate temporary remedy that would allow residents to apply for restricted driving privileges and keep their jobs, continue to be productive family members, and/or go to school, colleges and universities.

Thank you for introducing Senate Bill 2 as a viable option for our citizens of Kansas.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Glenda Overstreet Vaughn  
Political Action Chair

## Kansas NAACP

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The Kansas State NAACP represents over 2000 members statewide with 19 branches and is located within Region 4 of the NAACP that includes Kansas, Missouri, Colorado, Minnesota, Iowa, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Wyoming, and South Dakota.