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21 February 2019 Testimony in Support of Senate Bill-143 Expanded Eligibility for Restricted Drivers' License

Senate Transportation Committee Chair, Senator Mike Petersen Vice Chair, Senator Dan Goddard Ranking Minority Member, Senator Pat Pettey Committee Members

Good morning Honorable Chair and members of the Committee,

Thank you for reading my written testimony in support of Senate Bill 143. I would like to give you some background as to why I support this bill. I was delivered from drug addiction last year. In 2018 I applied and was accepted into the Working Men of Christ discipleship training program; of which I have been appointed House Mentor of our women's program, House of Ruth, Topeka location.

The leaders of this ministry, dedicate their lives to working with and mentoring addicts and individuals coming out of prison. The average national recividism rate is 77%, while Working Men of Christ Ministries average recividism rate is 4%. All of this was built on the same values our country stands for and holds dear. During the process of my recovery, I have become an active registered voter, acquired gainful employment, and have become involved in sharing in the cares and concerns of my community in Topeka.

However, there is one thing I have yet to attain; a valid drivers license. While I was in active addiction, I was caught driving with a suspended license, which left me ineligible for a restricted license now. God has blessed me with a great job in Topeka at Security Transport Services. There are many opportunities for advancement, but I am not eligible without a valid drivers license. There are many students in Working Men of Christ who share my testimony. This law helps.

*Please act today to support Kansans like me and make Kansas known as a State that supports reform. Very Truly Yours,* 

Dominique R. Walker