

To: House Committee on Transportation

From: Wendi Stark, Research Associate

Date: February 11, 2021

RE: Proponent for HB 2193

We want to thank Chairman Proehl and the members of the Committee for giving the League of Kansas Municipalities the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 2193.

This bill would, along with other changes, amend K.S.A. 8-2110(c) and thereby lessen the burden of reinstatement fees on individuals seeking to get their driver's license back. Current law requires that the court assess a reinstatement fee for each charge against the applicant for reinstatement. HB 2193 amends this section to clarify that the reinstatement fee be charged for each case, ensuring that each person pay only one reinstatement fee.

This provision of the bill was one of the recommendations made by the Municipal Court Ad Hoc Committee in their 2018 report Bonding Practices, Fines, and Fees. The reasoning behind this recommendation is that the levying of reinstatement fees for each charge has been found to perpetuate a cycle of violations rather than increase compliance. It is not uncommon for a person to come before the court with multiple charges of driving on suspended license, and multiple fees to pay. This payment burden has, in many cases, resulted in yet further violations rather than compliance. Limiting the reinstatement fees will help people to break out of this cycle.

The League of Kansas Municipalities appreciates the work of the Criminal Justice Reform Commission that resulted in these recommendations. We are supportive of the change to reinstatement fees and are not opposed to the other changes made by HB 2193. The League supports this bill and respectfully asks the committee to recommend the bill favorably to the full House for its consideration.