Testimony in Support of HB2193 as Amended

By Faith Martin, 608 S. Drury Lane, Wichita, KS 67207

House Transportation Chairman Proehl, Vice Chair, Delperdang, Ranking Minority Member Helgerson and Committee members.

140,000 Kansans had their driver's license suspended because of insufficient funds to pay original traffic fines and court costs within the 30 days required by State statute. This means there are 140,000 court cases that could be cleared if you work and pass HB2193.

The Department of Revenue suspends driver's licenses in an attempt to collect a debt for Kansas municipal and district courts. With no legal way to drive, jobs are lost which can lead to welfare, homelessness, or jail which are all a drain on Kansas taxpayers which could be alleviated if you work and pass HB 2193.

In a unanimous ruling in Timbs v. Indiana, the Supreme Court decided that "exorbitant tolls" cannot be used to fine people or seize property from those accused of a crime. Kansas cannot circumvent the Excessive Fines Clause of the Eighth Amendment and will be in compliance if you work and pass HB 2193.

These amendments are also part of the companion SB100 bill in the Senate Transportation Committee which:

- 1) Allows drivers to agree to payment plans and/or community service prior to Court.
- 2) Eliminates all reinstatement, collection, and application fees.
- 3) Allows legal driving while completing Community Service and/or making payments.
- 4) Allows Kansas Courts to withdraw arrest warrants and remove additional fines, fees, or imprisonment plus the 90-day delay before a person can have their license reinstated.

If this body works and passes HB 2193:

- 1) Valuable Court resources are saved.
- 2) Less warrants are issued for failure to appear.
- 3) Drivers can afford to pay their original fines and court costs.
- 4) Thousands of Court cases are cleared.
- 5) The State of Kansas is in Constitutional compliance.
- 6) Millions of dollars are received back into the courts.