January 30, 2020

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB275

The Senate on Transportation:
Chair: Senator Mike Peterson
Vice-Chair: Senator Dan Goddard
Ranking Minority Member: Senator Pat Pettey
Senator Elaine Bowers, Senator Kevin Braun, Senator Randall Hardy, Senator Tom Hawk,
Senator Richard Hilderbrand, Senator Ty Masterson, Senator John Skubal and Senator Caryn
Tyson

Good Morning Mr. Chairman and other distinguished Members of the Committee, thank you for
the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 275.

A few years ago we passed a law allowing individuals with a suspended drivers’ license to apply
for a restricted license and pay a non-refundable fee to drive to work, school, church, court and
to doctor appointments while maintaining car insurance and making payments on traffic fines.
The Department of Revenue\Driver Control reports that many have applied and received a
restricted license and fines were collected in their department and locally. That’s a “Win,Win”
situation however, many applications were denied for varies reasons. I began tracking current
law and attended a Suspended Drivers’ License Workshop this past summer as a panelist with
Wichita Police Chief Gordon Ramsey, attorneys, a staff person with Drivers Control, along with
the Racial Profiling Board, who participated over the phone during the workshop to answer
questions from almost 300 people in attendance. What we discovered at the workshop, being the
main reason that some individuals could not participate in current law and receive a restrictive
license, was that they were in a revoked status (Driving while Suspended). I also worked with
Peter Ninemire and Melissa Lubbers of the Caring Center of Wichita to try and address this
issue.

This bill includes those drivers with certain conditions and will help so many people affected by
this issue by allowing them to drive back and forth to work, school, etc., while making payments
towards their fines. It will also remove other barriers that prevent reinstatement regarding driver licenses, which you’ll hear about from other conferees here today. I truly believe that without your help, it’s very unlikely that some Kansans, because of the high traffic fines that have accumulated for them over the years, they will never be able to drive legally again.

Thank you for your time and attention. I urge you to support SB-275

Sincerely, Sen. Faust Goudeau

Oletha Faust-Goudeau