



TO: House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice  
FROM: City of Olathe, Tim Danneberg, Director External Affairs  
DATE: March 6, 2024  
SUBJECT: Neutral to SB 318 (Municipal Court fingerprinting provisions only)

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The City of Olathe appreciates the concerns of municipal courts throughout Kansas that underlie their support of SB 318's removal of fingerprinting requirements for municipal courts related to persons convicted of driving without a valid driver's license or failing to have motor vehicle liability insurance coverage. As one of the highest-volume municipal courts in the state, the Olathe Municipal Court wanted to share concerns it has with the legislation for the Committee's consideration.

Fingerprints uploaded into state and federal fingerprint indexes help to solve crimes. There are cases in which serious crimes have been solved because the print lifted from the scene matched a print taken in municipal court.

When drivers are not licensed and are cited for driving without a license, it can be difficult to ascertain correct names and dates of birth because of the lack of official documentation, language barriers, and cultural differences. Fingerprints are the one link that courts can rely on to verify identity in these cases. Removing the fingerprinting requirement will make properly identifying defendants much more difficult in these cases.

We understand that these and other factors, including the burden fingerprinting places on some municipal courts, were considered by the proponents of SB 318 and will be carefully weighed by this Committee. We appreciate the opportunity to highlight our concerns with the legislation.