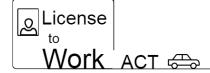
## **Support HB3052/SB1786**



## Ammons / Aquino

Over **50 thousand Illinois licenses are suspended each year** because drivers can't pay tickets, fines, or fees; or for other reasons unrelated to bad driving. If you can't work, you can't pay. If you can't pay, you can't work. The debt cycle continues, hurting individuals, families, businesses, communities, and taxpayers.

Over **80%**of Illinoisans
drive to work,
and a license is
required just to apply for many jobs.<sup>1</sup>

After curbing non-moving suspensions in 2012, WA State freed up about **70,000 annual law** enforcement hours to prioritize public safety.<sup>2</sup>

The Northern District of Illinois leads the nation in Chapter 13 bankruptcy. A third to half of people are filing because local governments have suspended, or are threatening to suspend, their driver's licenses or seize their cars over debt. <sup>3</sup>

- National experts agree: DMV's aren't debt collectors. Driver's licenses should be suspended for highway safety reasons only, not for debt collection or other non-moving violations.<sup>4</sup>
- Illinois is an outlier: the majority of states do not suspend licenses for unpaid parking tickets.<sup>5</sup>
- Excessive license suspension increases unemployment. A New Jersey study found that 42% of individuals lost their jobs following the suspension of their licenses.<sup>6</sup>
- An Illinois survey found job loss for half of suspended drivers.<sup>7</sup>
- The impact is disproportionate. Black and Latino drivers are more likely than white drivers to be stopped by the police, to be fined or arrested for traffic offenses, and to suffer undue fines or incarceration.<sup>8</sup>

## Here's how the License to Work Act helps:

- Eliminates driver's license suspension as a penalty for most non-driving violations, including:
  - o Failing to pay parking, compliance, or tollway tickets, fines, or fees
  - Being judged to be a "truant minor"
  - Criminal trespass to a vehicle, and a handful of other non-driving violations
- Allows an individual whose license was suspended under any of these provisions to have their license reinstated.

## Who Supports the License to Work Act?

**ACLU Illinois** 

Breakthrough Urban Ministries

**Brighton Park Neighborhood Council** 

Cabrini Green Legal Aid

Cara Chicago

Chicago Appleseed Fund for Justice

Chicago Center for Arts and Technology

Chicago Coalition for the Homeless

Chicago Council of Lawyers

Chicago CRED

Chicago Jobs Council

Chicago Lawyers' Committee for

Civil Rights

Community Renewal Society

**Comprehensive Community Solutions** 

Cook County Sheriff's Office

**Employment & Employer Services** 

**Growing Home** 

Heartland Alliance for Human Needs &

**Human Rights** 

**Howard Area Community Center** 

Illinois Asset Building Group

Illinois Hunger Coalition

Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights

Illinois YouthBuild Coalition, Inc.

Jane Addams Resource Corporation

John Howard Association of Illinois

Juvenile Justice Initiative

Law Office of the Cook County Public Defender

**Navicore Solutions** 

**New Moms** 

North Lawndale Employment Network

Peoria Citizens Committee for Economic Opportunity

POWER-PAC, a project of COFI

Safer Foundation

Sargent Shriver National Center on

Poverty Law

SEIU Healthcare

Social Change

St. Leonard's Ministries

Women Employed

Woodstock Institute

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates.

<sup>2 &</sup>quot;Reducing Suspended Drivers," Presentation by Julie Knittle, WA Department of Licensing, 2015 Region IV Conference of the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators, https://www.aamva.org/2015-Region-IV-Conference-Presentations/.

The Debt Spiral: How Chicago's Vehicle Ticketing Practices Unfairly Burden Low-Income and Minority Communities," Woodstock Institute, June 2018, https://woodstockinst.org/research/reports/debt-spiral-how-chicagos-vehicle-ticketing-practices-unfairly-burden-low-income-and-minority-communities/

<sup>4 &</sup>quot;Reducing Suspended Drivers and Alternative Reinstatement Best Practices," American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators, November 2018, https://www.aamva.org/ReducingSuspendedDriversAternativeReinstatementBP/

In 2013, a national DMV association (the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators) could only identify 4 states suspending for parking tickets: Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, and Rhode Island. This is not comprehensive, but Illinois is in the minority. "Best Practices Guide to Reducing Suspended Drivers," American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators, 2013, http://www.aamva.org/Suspended-and-Revoked-Drivers-Working-Group/.

<sup>6 &</sup>quot;Affordability and Fairness Task Force: Final Report," Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center, 2006, http://www.state.nj.us/mvc/pdf/About/AFTF\_final\_02.pdf.

<sup>&#</sup>x27; "Living in Suspension," Chicago Jobs Council, February 2018, https://cjc.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Living-in-Suspension\_Report-by-CJC.pdf

<sup>8 &</sup>quot;Racial Disparity in Consent Searches and Dog Sniff Searches," ACLU of Illinois, 2014, http://www.aclu-il.org/racial-disparity-in-consent-searches-and-dog-sniff-searches/.