



# SENATE BILL 37



Towards Employment



## AT A GLANCE

### DEBT-RELATED DRIVER'S LICENSE SUSPENSIONS

According to the report, "Road to Nowhere: Debt-Related Driver's License Suspensions in Ohio," published by the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland:

- In Ohio, approximately **60%** of all driver's license suspensions are based on a person's failure to pay money owed to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles and failure to appear in court or pay a fine.
- Ohio drivers have more than **3 million** debt related suspensions.
- Debt-related suspensions substantially burden Ohio communities with an average outstanding total debt each year of over **\$920 million**.
- Zip codes with the highest populations of Black Ohioans foot the largest portion of the bill, costing residents an average of **\$12 million** each year.

### SB 37 OVERVIEW

In the bill's previous language, **SB 37** would:

- **Eliminate** the government's authority to revoke, suspend, or refuse to renew a person's driver's license for failure to pay court fines and fees and for failure to appear in court.
- **Limit** driver's license suspensions to convictions related to dangerous driving.
- **Expand** limited driving privileges for suspensions relating to child support
- **Require** the BMV to collect data to determine the impact of changes on people affected by license suspensions and inform future policy.
- **Eliminate** security suspensions and judgement suspensions relating to proof of insurance

### STATEHOUSE TIMETABLE: WHAT'S AT STAKE?

Recently, **SB 37** has undergone changes that are unfavorable to many Ohioans who have experienced driver's license suspensions.

Some of these key changes include: **re-activating 'failure-to-appear' suspensions, tampering with language about driving privileges for child support-related suspensions, and re-activating insurance-related security & judgement suspensions!**

**SB 37** was recently voted out of the Senate Judiciary committee and the Senate. The bill will now head to the House of Representatives.

## CALL TO ACTION!

Contact your state legislators and urge them to support the version of **SB 37 that eliminates 'failure-to-appear' suspensions, expands driving privileges for child support, and eliminates insurance-related security & judgement suspensions!**

**Join us** in organizing with directly impacted Ohioans to advocate for a comprehensive bill that truly helps **DECriminalize Poverty!**

If interested, sign up here to be contacted!

