

Support Testimony for Senate Bill 390 – Leslie Turner, FFJC

Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Leslie Turner, Nevada Deputy Director at Fines and Fees Justice Center and I am submitting this testimony in support of Senate Bill 390. SB390 rightly recognizes that suspending driver's licenses for unpaid child support creates a destructive cycle—punishing people for their inability to pay and then making it harder for them to work, earn income, and meet their obligations. When a license is taken away, so often a person's job follows, and not just that, but basic livelihood. In other words, not driving quickly becomes not working, and not working becomes not paying.

Driver's licenses should be suspended for unsafe driving. This gives judges the discretion to consider whether suspending a license would block someone's access to employment. That discretion is essential—because enforcement without context often deepens the problem rather than solving the underlying problem.

We also must consider who is most impacted. In many cases, it's not just the parent whose license is suspended who suffers—it's the very families and children the system claims to be protecting. If impacted families are already feeling the weight of unpaid support, cutting off a parent's ability to work guarantees even less financial stability for everyone involved.

SB390 helps break this cycle by aligning policy with real-life conditions—and by supporting a more humane, effective approach to child support enforcement. It treats people with dignity, recognizes the economic realities families face, and keeps parents working and contributing.

I urge the committee to pass Senate Bill 390 and to continue building a justice system that works for families—not against them.

I also want to name, this doesn't eliminate the option of license suspension when absolutely necessary.

Also wondering, have you all spoken to any of the actual families who receive child support? Understand and plan child support enforcement in ways that address the holistic and whole family's ability to thrive.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Leslie Turner