

Minnesota State Bar Association

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The Minnesota State Bar Association is a voluntary professional association representing 13,000 attorneys statewide. The MSBA supports passage of HF336/SF432, which would prevent drivers' licenses from being suspended solely for unpaid traffic tickets, court fines, or fees.

- The cumulative effect of traffic stops for driving after suspension causes significant additional burdens on prosecutors and public defenders who already labor under heavy workloads.
- Nonpayment of fines and fees is a symptom of poverty, not a threat to public safety. This bill would continue to protect the public by leaving in place license suspensions for dangerous driving violations and habitual violations.
- License suspensions disproportionately affect low-income people and frequently lead to job losses, exacerbating their already challenging economic circumstances.

For these reasons, the MSBA urges passage of HF336/SF432.

Dyan Ebert

President, 2020-21

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