

From: Schatz, Ken [Ken.Schatz@vermont.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2015 8:21 AM
To: London, Sarah
Subject: RE: Working Group on reinstating suspended drivers' licenses

Hi Sarah,

The Office of Child Support will send representatives to the meeting on Wednesday. It is my understanding that relatively few child support orders result in driver's license suspensions but having that authority is helpful towards obtaining payments. If you want more information before Wednesday, feel free to give me a call.

Ken

Ken Schatz
Commissioner
Department for Children and Families
802-871-3385

From: London, Sarah
Sent: Thursday, October 22, 2015 5:34 PM
To: Schatz, Ken
Subject: FW: Working Group on reinstating suspended drivers' licenses

Per conversation today, the Indiana program was the one about child support. Otherwise, DLS task force has been discussing things below. The next meeting of the group if anyone from OSC would like to participate is next Wednesday Oct 28 from 2pm to 3:30pm at DMV in room: DMV - MTPL 120 State Sm Conf Rm 317. Otherwise, I am happy to pass along feedback. Thank you again,
Sarah

Indiana (child support specific)

<http://www.journalgazette.net/news/local/courts/Prosecutor-offers-driver-s-license-amnesty-day-7092390>

California traffic ticket amnesty program:

<http://www.courts.ca.gov/trafficamnesty.htm>

South Carolina:

http://scdmvonline.com/dmvnew/default.aspx?n=amnesty_week_2011

http://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=0CCAQFjAAahUKewj8h_rUtdblAhXDPz4KHYshDyA&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.aamva.org%2FWorkArea%2FDownloadAsset.aspx%3Fid%3D5879&usg=AFQjCNEEsjpZ9YtCCPNlyZTVqJQPENQ_YA&sig2=zvBuVVaXCxBTOEOXvheLvw&bvm=bv.105814755,d.cWw

Suspended & Revoked Drivers – Overview

The suspension of driving privileges has been used for decades to address poor driving behavior. However, what was originally intended as a sanction to address poor driving behavior is now used as a mechanism to gain compliance with non-highways safety, or social non-conformance, reasons. Drivers are now commonly suspended for reasons such as bounced checks, fuel theft, truancy, vandalism, and many other non-traffic safety related violations. To best serve public safety, while using our limited resources more effectively, AAMVA's Suspended & Revoked Best Practice recommends that legislatures repeal laws requiring the suspension of driving privileges for non-highway safety related violations.

☐ Nearly 4 of every 10 suspended drivers were suspended for non-highway safety reasons.

☐ Drivers suspended for highway safety related reasons are almost 3 times more likely to be involved in a crash than drivers suspended for social non-conformance reasons.

☐ To reduce the number of suspended drivers by up to 40%, states are encouraged to repeal state laws requiring or allowing driver license suspension for non-highway safety reasons.

☐ All 50 states, the District of Columbia, as well as many Canadian provinces, have laws that either require or permit the courts to withdraw driving privileges for non-conformance reasons.

☐ The common belief is that a driver license suspension provides effective, sustainable motivation to encourage individuals to comply with court ordered or legislated mandates to avoid suspension is not supported by empirical evidence. Rather, suspended driver licenses for non-highway safety related reasons take resources from law enforcement and the legal and administrative system that could be used to keep the right drivers off the road – those that commit highway safety violations that cause fatal, injury and property damage crashes.

☐ 1 out of 5 traffic fatalities nationally involves a driver who is operating a motor vehicle while suspended or who has no license at all. Almost 19% of drivers suspended for highway safety related reasons are involved in a crash. Approximately 34% of drivers suspended for highway safety related reasons commit a moving violation while under suspension. These statistics support the notion that drivers suspended for social non-conformance reasons pose a comparatively lower safety risk compared to those who are suspended for driving related reasons.

☐ In addition to the issue of highway safety, law enforcement and the legal and administrative system is burdened by the process of suspending and revoking licenses for social non-conformance violations. Eliminating social non-conformance violations would allow resources to be better focused on highway safety efforts.

☐ Some alternatives to driver license sanctioning for non-highway safety include: garnishment of wages, monetary programs, amnesty programs, and diversion programs.

☐ For more information, see AAMVA's 2013 Best Practices Guide to Reducing Suspended Drivers at AAMVA - Best Practices and Model Legislation.