

Ohio Poverty Law Center

The Ohio Poverty Law Center's mission is to reduce poverty and increase justice by protecting and expanding the legal rights of Ohioans living, working and raising their families in poverty.

www.ohiopovertylawcenter.org

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Driver's License Suspensions and Reinstatement Fees Advocacy

Problem:

- One million Ohioans have a suspended driver's licenses
- There are over three million suspensions
- Under Ohio law, 74 offenses carry either a mandatory or permissive driver's license suspension
- Reinstatement fees—administrative fees—range from \$15 to \$600 each

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Progress:

Driver's License Reinstatement Fee Amnesty Pilot Program

- Brought to a lawmaker by a constituent (2018)
- Legislature passed a 6-month pilot program
- 76,000 Ohioans participated
- Average reduction of fees \$789

Permanent Reinstatement Fee Amnesty Program

- 222,716 Ohioans received waiver or reduction
- Average savings of \$612

Non-Compliance Reinstatement Fee Reduction in Budget

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Current Opportunity:

Address underlying suspensions

- [Road to Nowhere Report](#)
- Ohioans have over three million debt-related suspensions totaling \$920 million

Senate Bill 37

- Bi-partisan Sponsors—Sen. Louis Blessing (R-Colerain Township, Sen. Catherine Ingram (D-Cincinnati)
- [Senate Judiciary Committee](#)
- Substitute Bill/Amendments this Fall

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What is Next:

Return to the Road Campaign

- Broad range of coalition partners
- Sign on letter: www.ohiopovertylawcenter.org/return-to-the-road-campaign
- Contact lawmakers (district factsheets and talking points)
- Write your story and share on social media or with local news