

GA's Practice To Suspend Driver's Licenses For Minor Traffic Fines Hurts People And Slows Economic Progress



More than **100K Georgian's** have their driver's licenses suspended each year because they can't pay tickets. **They can't get to work, school or care for their children.**



500K Georgian's are arrested each year for driving with a suspended license which comes with a fine (\$500-1,000) and jail time (2 days-12 months).



The American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators estimates that arresting a person for driving on a suspended license takes **9 hours** of an officer's time, **wasting valuable public safety resources.**



Many Georgians get placed on probation or end up in jail when they **can't pay their tickets and fines.**

Suspended licenses hold Georgians back:

- 87% of all jobs in Georgia require a driver's license.
- Driving is required to access food, healthcare and basic necessities.
- 90% of Georgia lacks public transportation.
- Black drivers are 7 times more likely than white drivers to be arrested for driving on a suspended license in some counties of Georgia.

Minor traffic offenses should not trigger an automatic suspension of the license for the inability to pay the fine as it often guarantees the loss of a job and possible arrest for driving on a suspended license.



A valid driver license can be a means to survive. Local communities, employers, and employees all experience negative consequences as a result of social non-conformity suspensions, including unemployment, lower wages, fewer employment opportunities and hiring choices, and increased insurance costs.

The American Motor Vehicles Association



The suspension of a driver's or professional license is one of the most pervasive poverty traps for poor people assessed a fine that they cannot afford to pay...Suspension of a driver's or professional licenses is hugely counterproductive; it punishes non-payment by taking away a person's means for making a living. License suspension programs are also expensive for States to run and they distract law enforcement efforts from priorities related to public safety.

Harvard Law School Criminal Justice Policy