



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 1798</b>		DATE: <b>1/13/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ARNIE C. AC "HONEST ABE" DIENOFF</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 12:00 AM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ABDUL SABOOR AMIN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 12:56 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

Dear Committee,

My name is Abdul Saboor Amin. I live and work in Missouri. I have lived in the United States for 11 years, and I am a US citizen. I am from Afghanistan. I came to the United States on a Special Immigrant Visa because I assisted US troops in Afghanistan as an interpreter.

In my role as Legal Assistant Coordinator with the MICA Project, I assist Afghan parolees to the United States with their immigration legal cases. The parolees came to the United States during the evacuation, when Kabul fell to the Taliban.

A large number of these people worked with US forces in Afghanistan. They are also eligible for Special Immigrant Visas, but the process is very slow. Some worked as interpreters, but many worked in other positions that did not require English. Many put their lives on the line for the United States. The United States brought them here in the evacuations. It would not be fair to add this additional requirement for them at this point. We should help them to live here in a peaceful environment, to integrate into the United States.

I accompany many Afghans when they go to the DMV for the first time to apply for their license. Almost all of them need me to interpret. The main reason is that whoever needs an interpreter, most of them are not educated. They can't read their own language, because they didn't go to school. They don't even know how to start the test and which questions they are on during the test. Some of the clients jump directly from 1st or 2nd question to 7th and 8th question to mark the answer.

In Afghanistan, many people do not attend school and it's just because of war and terror. People are dying for food. They need jobs. It's the history of Afghanistan that every after 5 or 10 plus years, the government collapses due to civil war, hypocrisy, or foreign countries' involvement. The Taliban does not allow girls to go to school. There are many ethnic minorities, and there are not schools that teach in those languages. And many families only send their children to school for a few years. Even for someone who can read in Dari or Pashto, the English language is a completely new script to learn. Even the calendar is different in the United States from in Afghanistan.

I know that the Taliban and Mujahideen were killing teachers, engineers and doctors in the past because they were the only people who educating the generation, building up the country and taking care of their health. Taliban and Mujahideen were killing the one who could speak foreign languages like English and Russian. In this kind of environment how can people think about going to school or

learning foreign languages? Now when the US government gave them the chance to come to the USA, it's hard for them to get their education instead of supporting their families financially.

Their children will go to school in the United States. They will learn to read and write and speak English. But the parents need to be able to support them during their early years in the United States. A driving license is very important for them.

When people first arrive in the United States, there are many things they need to figure out. The Afghan parolees arrived in the United States with legal status and permission to work, which also gives them permission to apply for a license. But they can't learn the English language, plus learn to read for the first time, that fast. First of all, they need to get their children in school, to find a job, and to learn how to do basic things in the United States, like grocery shopping. The second most important step for all of them is the driving permit or license. Without a license, they can't get a job.

If people cannot get a license and a job, they are more likely to need public benefits. They will have no way to support their family during their early months in the United States.

For someone who has never been to school, learning to write will take a long time. They work hard to learn English. But working is one of the best ways to learn – to be around other people speaking English and to learn to communicate with your boss. Sitting at home without a license and with no one to support them will not help them learn English faster.

These are the reasons why I oppose this bill. Thank you for your time.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ALAINA KNOLL</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 7:36 PM</b>	
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Chairman and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to be heard today.

My name is Alaina Knoll. I live in Kansas City , Missouri, and I am writing as an individual community member. I am not representing any organization.

I am writing to oppose House Bill 1798.

I oppose HB1798 because it makes our communities less safe, it is unnecessary, it is economically irresponsible, and it is discriminatory and exclusionary.

First, HB1798 would reduce community safety. By requiring the written driver’s license exam to be given only in English and banning translators, this bill would increase the number of people driving without ever being tested or licensed. When people can access testing and training, they learn the rules of the road and how to drive safely. Blocking access to testing does not make roads safer. It makes them more dangerous.

Second, this bill is completely unnecessary. The level of English fluency required by HB1798 does not match what is actually needed to drive safely. Most traffic signs rely on symbols, colors, and shapes, not written language. Safe driving is about understanding road rules, signs, and behavior, not about English fluency.

Third, this bill is economically irresponsible. Industries like trucking and delivery rely heavily on workers with limited English proficiency. HB1798 would shrink the workforce by making it harder for capable workers to get licensed, which would worsen labor shortages, increase costs, and hurt Missouri’s economy.

Finally, HB1798 is discriminatory and exclusionary. All Missourians need to travel to work, school, the grocery store, and the doctor’s office. Access to a driver’s license is about allowing people to move freely and participate in daily life. People with limited English proficiency deserve the same opportunity to drive legally and safely as everyone else.

This issue is not abstract to me. I have seen how hard people work to support their families, even while learning a new language and adjusting to a new place. Many of them drive every day to jobs that keep our economy running. Making it harder for them to get licensed does not solve any real problem. It only creates new ones, for them and for all of us who share the road.

**For all of these reasons, I strongly oppose HB1798 and urge you to reject it.**

**Thank you for your time and for listening.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ALANA KUNZE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 6:03 PM</b>	
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**This bill is unrealistic, undermines communities, and is merely discriminatory.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ALEJANDRO A. BRICENO LANZ</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 2:44 PM</b>

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Driving is an essential part of life in our state. By Keeping the drivers test in English, you ensure that a vast portion of our state's foreign population is ostracized and with a clear disadvantage. This will lead to rejections solely on the reasoning of lack of understanding of the language and not driving skills or ability. Considering Driver licenses are also used as Identification, you are taking this opportunity away from those new to the United States or those attempting to assimilate and creating a bigger barrier that in no way will benefit the state.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ALEX SCOTT HUBBARD</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 5:43 PM</b>	
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Hello committee members,

My name is Alex Hubbard from St. Louis County and I am testifying as an individual. I am specifically testifying in opposition to H.B. 1798.

This bill would implement entirely unnecessary language requirements for the Driver's License Exam in Missouri. The language proficiency required to understand traffic signs and rules of the road is minimal, with most signs having little to no written words at all. Additionally, these restrictions would decrease safety as they would make the written exam less accessible, therefore increasing the likelihood that folks will drive without training and licensure. This not only increases legal danger for the driver, but also increases physical danger for them and those they share the road with. Finally, this bill is extremely discriminatory. It seems obvious that language proficiency is not needed to actually drive safely, simply to complete the written test and understand the phrasing of its questions. As such, if someone with a language proficiency other than English can pass the written test when they take it in a language they understand, or use a translator, then they should by all means be considered safe to drive. They have, in this instance, proven their understanding of the information they are being assessed on. The language they have proven this in makes little difference, especially in the context of driving rules, regulations, and road signs. In my eyes, this bill seems then not aimed at increasing driver safety, but simply at decreasing the ability of individuals with English as a second language to access necessary infrastructure within our society, fitting with the recent pattern of the US government targeting immigrant populations. This environment of exclusion, hostility, and discrimination is not one I want to live in as a resident of this country and as one who calls Missouri home.

As such, I urge you, committee members, to oppose H.B. 1798 and others like it.

Thank you for your time.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>ALICE SCOTT</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
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CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 5:12 PM</b>
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**Many legal immigrants are learning English and should not be punished by not having access to an interpreter.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ALICIA HERNANDEZ</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>314-780-5054</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>MIGRANT &amp; IMMIGRANT COMMUNITY ACTION PROJECT</b>		TITLE: <b>DIRECTOR OF ADVOCACY</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>4428 NEOSHO STREET</b>			
CITY: <b>ST LOUIS</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63116</b>
EMAIL: <b>aliciahernandez@mica-project.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 1:17 PM</b>	
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House Transportation Committee  
 House Bill 1798  
 January 13th, 2026

This bill requires the written driver's license exam to be conducted in English only and bans translation. The bill demands more language fluency than what safe driving requires. Most traffic signs and road signals use symbols, not complex written language. What problem is this bill solving?

HB 1798 is exclusionary, discriminatory, and ineffective. By prohibiting written examinations in languages other than English and banning translators, the bill creates unnecessary barriers for Missourians with limited English proficiency. As a result, many residents with limited English would face barriers to obtaining a driver's license, limiting their ability for them to commute to work, access essential services, or transport their families, directly affecting their ability to travel freely, like other residents in the state. In practice, this bill restricts freedom of movement and undermines equal access to daily life for thousands of Missouri residents.

We share stories of immigrants who better and strengthen our communities, cities, and state. We share statistics on the substantial economic contributions immigrants bring to Missouri. We do this in the hope that elected officials will see immigrants as humans, worthy of basic necessities, such as the ability to obtain a driver's license. English-only laws deny equal access and treatment. By imposing them, Missouri blocks access to government services. Language access is crucial for fair treatment and dignity, especially for vulnerable people.

There is no question that immigrants bring diverse culture, economic value, opportunities, and diversity. There is also no doubt that immigrants are a political cudgel. Immigration "issues" are often framed with fear or misinformation to rally voters and distract from other issues. Vulnerable people become political pawns for electoral gain, even though data continues to show immigrants don't increase crime or cause limitation of resources, and that voters want humane solutions, including language access for all, especially immigrants.

I strongly urge you to protect fair and equal access for all Missourians by rejecting House Bill 1798. Thank you.

Alicia Hernández,

**Director of Advocacy, Migrant & Immigrant Community Action Project  
Member of the Missouri Immigration Policy Coalition**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ALICIA LEA</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 9:07 PM</b>	
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I believe it is important for people to take their driver's license exam in their own language. If someone is new to our country, they may not speak English fluently yet. However, they need a driver's license to get a job and take English classes. Thank you for your time.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>AMANDA EHLL</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 9:56 PM</b>	
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I'm urging the committee to oppose HB 1798. I don't see how this bill would better the lives of Missourians, which should be the point of the Missouri legislature. It is a waste of tax payers money to have a committee hearing where this discriminatory bill is presented in order to make the written drivers license exam only in English AND prohibiting the use of translators. This will lead to more people driving without passing a written exam. The language skills needed for a written exam are not the same as needed for driving safely. Since Missouri is dependent on people using some form of transportation to get around that is not walking, I feel this is not fair to people with limited English proficiency. I appreciate your time.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>AMANDA TROUT</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 7:54 PM</b>	

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This bill would increase the number of people driving without passing a driver's license exam. When people are able to get licenses, that means that they completed training and testing, improving road safety for all.

**HB 1798 IS COMPLETELY UNNECESSARY.** The level of language fluency required by this bill is incongruent with the actual language skills required to safely drive a vehicle. You don't need any language skills to understand traffic signs. The vast majority of traffic signs are symbols that are not written.

**HB 1798 IS ECONOMICALLY IRRESPONSIBLE.** Trucking is one of the largest industries that employs people with limited English proficiency. This bill would severely hurt the trucking industry, by exacerbating workforce shortages.

**HB 1798 IS DISCRIMINATORY AND EXCLUSIONARY.** All Missourians need to travel to work, school, the grocery store, the doctor's office, etc. Access to driver's licenses is about recognizing that people with limited English proficiency should have the ability to move around freely, like everyone else.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>AMRITA BURDICK</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 5:25 PM</b>	
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**Driving skills are not dependent upon on English proficiency and non-English speakers need to get to work and take children to school. This is an unnecessary -- and discriminatory -- requirement.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>AMY CARLSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 5:10 PM</b>	
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I am against the requirement that drivers license tests be given in English. It seems to create problems not solve them. Missouri residents who are not good English speakers will still drive - they need to get to work - but we won't be able to teach them the traffic laws and make sure they understand them. I have a 17 year old who is a newer driver. I hate the idea of him being hurt on the road by someone who did not learn traffic laws because they were not allowed to show they know the rules anyway. This law would make it less safe to drive. Please do not vote for this change.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>AMY CONNOR</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 9:47 PM</b>	
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**All Missourians deserve the right to travel as they need and as they please. Public transit is not sufficient in any part of the state. This is blatantly discriminatory.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ANDREA CLARK</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 8:48 PM</b>	
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The level of language fluency required by this bill is incongruent with the actual language skills required to safely drive a vehicle. You don't need any language skills to understand traffic signs. The vast majority of traffic signs are symbols that are not written. This is true for drivers are illiterate and tourists or travelers from non-English speaking countries who rent cars. This regulation is just an another attack on our immigrant neighbors and workers.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>ANDREW C BOX</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 3:01 PM</b>
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**We do not need additional anti-immigrant laws. We have sufficient laws on the books to prevent crime, without targeting immigrants. This is un-American. To not be able to take the DL exam in spanish or other languages is ridiculous, stop discriminating against people for where they come from or the language they speak at home, or the color of their skin. Again - unAmerican.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>ANDREW ROGERS</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 11:39 PM</b>

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**This new proposed section in HB 1798 provides no benefit to communities while being unnecessarily cruel to prospective Missouri drivers.**

**I shouldn't have to explain why this is a bad bill. Bruce Sassmann should be embarrassed for putting forth such a terrible bill. Missourians are starting to pay attention to bills like these.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 1798</b>		DATE: <b>1/13/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>ANGY PORRAS GONZALEZ</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 9:31 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

Chairman and Honorable Committee Members,

My name is Angy Porras-Gonzalez, I am a resident of the city of Manchester, MO in St. Louis County, and I work in early childhood education as a trainer and a coach on projects funded by DESE and the Office of Childhood. I also study language development in multilingual learners. I write today in opposition to HB 1798 - Drivers Examination Requirements.

The purpose of a driver's test is to measure knowledge of traffic laws and safe driving practices, not English proficiency. Removing language accommodations will not make Missouri's roads safer. It will instead increase the number of unlicensed drivers by preventing capable individuals from demonstrating what they already know.

Many Missouri residents who are not native English speakers have years of driving experience. Limited English proficiency does not mean limited driving ability. A written driver's exam should measure knowledge of traffic rules, not a person's level of English proficiency. An English-only assessment unfairly prevents qualified drivers from demonstrating what they already know.

In my work, I see many early childhood educators who cannot attend free professional development trainings because they lack reliable transportation. With limited public transit in our county, access to a driver's license is essential for employment and for Missouri's economy.

Safety improves when all drivers understand the rules, regardless of the language used to assess them.

For these reasons, I oppose MO HB 1798.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.

Respectfully,

Angy Porras Gonzalez, M.Ed.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ANNE TRURAN</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>314-366-1907</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>TOGETHER LANGUAGE LLC</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>4032 HUMPHREY ST.</b>			
CITY: <b>ST. LOUIS</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63116</b>
EMAIL: <b>anne@togetherlanguage.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 9:38 PM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

I work with schools in St. Louis that have students from families who speak many languages. Parents are often in the PROCESS of learning English, but that process takes time! If they can't get their driver's license, they can't get their kids to school. If kids can't get to school, they can't learn. If kids in our community can't learn, they will grow into adults who can't contribute meaningfully to our economy. Also, how will people get to work? Businesses would be without their workers, and kids will be without their normal household income. This legislation should not pass. It would be a tremendous disservice to the community with long-term negative outcomes for individuals and our region as a whole.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>BENJAMIN ROBERT BRUCE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 7:17 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**There is no reason for this bill, other than to inhibit non-native English speakers from obtaining a driver's license. This bill is inherently prejudice against ESL (English second language) folks, and is irrelevant. I, as an Native English speaker, have never had any problem whatsoever, accessing the driving exam or any written protocols by way inaccessible language. Don't be racist or prejudice pieces of shit, and uphold equality FOR ALL.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>BLYTHE SPINDLER-RICHARDSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 7:30 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

**I would like to voice my opposition to HB 1798 and urge you to vote no on this proposed legislation.**

**This bill is unrealistic, undermines communities, and is merely discriminatory. It is absurd that the languages used to receive a driver's license would be only limited to English, especially since most road signs are symbols or single words. It is clear that the purpose of this bill is to simply puts targets on the backs of those in our communities who speak other languages by denying them access to legal identification.**

**Additionally, this proposed bill would be economically irresponsible, as the trucking industry, a primary employer for those with lower English language proficiency, would be significantly impacted if it were passed.**

**With all of these factors in mind, I once again urge you to vote no on HB 1798. Thank you.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>BRANDI PRUENTE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 3:41 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**An inability to drive in the US severely impacts the ability to work and function as a member of society.  
Non-English speakers should not have another barrier to their daily life.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>BREE ARCHER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 1:32 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

The beautiful thing about America is that we are a nation built on multiple ethnicities, languages and backgrounds. To no allow people who are here that may not speak english as a first language to have a fair shot at being able to take a drivers examination in their first language does not support the dream this nation was built on. America is a melting pot, and just because the Federal government wants to impose racist policies does not mean our state should follow in step.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>BRIANJAMES MCMAHON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 10:33 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

Safe driving is imperative for the wellbeing of our communities. Creating unnecessary barriers to accessing drivers licenses due to language will not decrease drivers, but cause more unlicensed drivers to be under duress and threat of the law.  
Additionally, even communist China does not have a law like this. As an English speaker in Asia, accommodations were given to non-Chinese speakers that allow immigrants and internationals to lawfully participate in the expectations of the community.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>CARLYE SCHROEDER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 9:43 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**This bill would be discriminatory- excluding many from being able to obtain their license. Even people who can speak and understand English are not always strong at writing or reading it. Please do not pass this bill. It will leave many people in a place of unnecessary difficulty.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>CAROLINA</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 2:57 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>CHRISTINA PETERSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 6:02 PM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

This is a nasty and unnecessary bill that seeks to limit options for Missourians in order to curry favor with a limited group of not-all-that-well-informed extremist Republican voters. How wonderful it would be to have a legislative majority that was as concerned with mitigating the damage being done to rural healthcare by the failure to extend the ACA subsidies, the damage being done to our farmers by the Trump tariffs, the damage being done to our natural resources by the Trump administration's war on green energy and industrial regulation, the damage being done to our state constitution by politicians eager to contravene the will of the voters, and the damage being done to our state's sovereignty by a Republican party more concerned with sucking up to Trump than with promoting the security and well-being of Missourians. Hopefully, that's what we'll get after the midterms. Even the extremists see this legislative majority for what they are.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>CHRISTOPHER WILSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 7:43 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

This bill would accomplish two things: 1) Discriminate against immigrants, including those that are still learning English as part of their efforts to improve their lives here in the United States, and 2) Prevent non-English speakers from pursuing a Drivers License, thus forcing many to choose to drive illegally to get to school, work, and elsewhere.

The ultimate impact of such a law would be to **NEGATIVELY** impact public safety by putting more unlicensed drivers on our streets.

It's blatantly discriminatory, mean-spirited, and dangerous.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>DANIEL JACKSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 5:34 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

Hello. I'm disturbed at how quickly the entire Republican Party was okay with abandoning all morals and fully supporting a fascist white supremacist regime. Yall used to at least pretend to not be racist. Now it's almost like a race to the bottom to see which one of you sniveling fuckheads can sound the most petulant racist dog whistle shamelessly in public. There will be a day of reckoning for everyone who supported and enabled this. Good luck.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>DAPHNE KO</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 7:54 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

**This bill is discriminatory and should not be enacted. Being licensed to drive, or to have a form of identification, has nothing to do with your ability to speak English. At the very least, translators should be permitted. This bill is cruel and is targeted at immigrants.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>DAVID TRURAN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 12:31 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**This bill is unrealistic, undermines communities, and is merely discriminatory.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>DOUGLAS W SMITH</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 6:59 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

As a teacher of English as a Second Language I can assure the legislators that learning written English is a lengthy process that can require two years or more. To force productive workers, hardworking and skilled, to drive without a license to earn a living is bad for our economy, bad for the individual and family and indicates a lack of compassion for other residents of this nation.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>EDGAR CARABEZ</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 11:01 PM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

**Should not limit drivers that understand the law in their preferred language. Allow people to be able to drive while they learn English writing.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>ELIZABETH DAVIS</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 4:19 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

**HB 1798 is a racist and nonsensical approach to limiting driver's licenses and identification to anyone who does not speak English as their primary language.**

**If the goal is for individuals to embrace the community they move to, they need access to transportation as a very first step. The immediate consequence of this bill would be to literally strand anyone who cannot complete the driver's examination. The impact to jobs and commerce would also be immediately evident; how will those individuals get to work? To appointments? To purchase goods and services?**

**HB 1798 does nothing more than create barriers.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ELLIE SELF</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 5:37 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

Requiring the driver's license exam to be taken only in English without the use of a translator is wrong for many reasons. First of all, it is unnecessary. The vast majority of road signs are comprised of symbols, not written words. Secondly, this would increase the amount of people driving without a license, creating unsafe roads. Additionally, many truck drivers in the US are not native English speakers, meaning this bill would negatively impact the Missouri economy. This bill is also incredibly exclusionary and doesn't recognize the right of ALL Missouri residents to move freely, not just those with English proficiency. I do not wish to see my home state of Missouri become a state where legal residents cannot live their everyday lives and be productive members of society, at the fault of our own government. Thank you for your time.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>EMILY HO</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 12:54 AM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**This is a horrible idea to only offer the driver's test in English. The test should be available in every language- this is for the health safety of our communities and everyone on the road. Non- English speakers in our communities struggle enough as it is, but their use of transportation in a car-based infrastructure country should not be restricted by what language they speak. The driver's examination should be about the driving and the understanding of the rules of the road.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>EMMA SHANKLAND</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>816-377-8957</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>HEALTH FORWARD FOUNDATION</b>		TITLE: <b>IMPACT STRATEGIST - POLICY</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>2300 MAIN ST #304</b>			
CITY: <b>KANSAS CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>64108</b>
EMAIL: <b>eshankland@healthforward.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 11:21 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**Chair Hurlbert and members of the House Transportation Committee:**

On behalf of Health Forward Foundation (Health Forward), I submit this letter of testimony in opposition to HB 1798. Health Forward works to support and build inclusive, powerful, and healthy communities. This bill requires the Missouri driver’s license written examination to be administered in English and prohibits the use of translators, which will increase barriers to access services for Missourians who have limited English fluency or whose primary language is one other than English.

The level of English fluency required for the examination is not indicative of an individual’s ability to safely navigate a vehicle. For example, many traffic signs can be identified based on shape and color as evidenced by the road sign identification test that an individual must pass at the DMV to get a driver’s license.

HB 1798 creates barriers to basic services and rights that support health and economic well-being, such as voting, education, employment, housing, banking, and access to healthcare, and impacts people’s ability to move about their community independently. This bill consequently hurts our economy and will negatively impact the health outcomes of those impacted.

Voting plays a key role in shaping the living conditions in our communities and is critical to fostering a healthy, functioning, thriving society. As driver’s licenses are one of the primary forms of identification used as voter ID in Missouri, any policy that restricts access to licenses will inevitably restrict access to voting despite it being a constitutionally protected right for American citizens, regardless of the language they speak or read.

Currently, the Missouri State Highway Patrol offers the written knowledge test for Class F (standard, non-commercial) license in 20 languages, including sign language. We should aim to expand these offerings, not reduce them.

For these reasons, Health Forward asks the committee to vote NO on HB 1798.

Feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or would like additional resources at [eshankland@healthforward.org](mailto:eshankland@healthforward.org).

Sincerely,

**Emma Shankland**  
**Impact Strategist – Policy**  
**Health Forward Foundation.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 1798</b>		DATE: <b>1/13/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>ERIN LOHBECK</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 10:36 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

HB 1798 would increase the number of people driving WITHOUT passing a drivers license exam. When people are actually able to get licenses, that means they have completed training and testing--and making roads safer for all.

The level of language fluency required by the bill is not in keeping with the actual language skills required to safely drive--the vast majority of traffic signs are symbols, not the written word.

This bill is also economically irresponsible--tracking is one of the largest industries that employs people with limited English. This bill would exacerbate workforce shortages.

All people in Missouri need to travel to work, school, stores, and hospitals. Being limited in English does not mean that people shouldn't have the ability to move about freely. Missouri does not have any sort of reliable means of public transportation so HB 1798 is discriminatory and exclusionary.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 1798</b>		DATE: <b>1/13/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>ETHEL TOMLINSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 9:55 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

**This is diabolical. The state of Missouri, in fact the entire Union has a large Hispanic/Latino community. This is racist and an unnecessary requirement, especially since we have translators available. We must stop these insidious legislative changes, which are only being implemented to make Black and Brown people feel isolated and unwanted. We want to make a more United States, not a more divided America. We are better than this!!**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 1798</b>		DATE: <b>1/13/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>EVAN MORGAN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 7:25 PM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

I'm in opposition to HB 1798, Driver's Examination Requirements, due to its violation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which does not allow denial of benefits and discrimination, which includes but is not limited to discrimination on an individual's language proficiency. Understand that English was designated the official language of the State of Missouri in 2008, reflecting its everyday use among the people of Missouri. Missouri has been home to fluent non-English speakers since before Missouri's Statehood and during Missouri's Statehood, too. Missouri is home to native French speakers in the Southeastern part of the state, who speak the unique Missouri French dialect. If passed, this would reject the uniqueness of the State of Missouri and accept sameness with the other 49 states. Likewise, if this bill just passed, it will affect over 5% of Missourians whose first language may be Spanish, Ukrainian, French, Arabic, Chinese, or German. Even though, this percent of the population may seem small if this groups of individuals cannot get test and ultimately receive a driver license, these would have affect on Missourian Businesses and Economies due to Missourians unable to travel to work, school, the grocery store, doctor office, churches, and other vital places that enrich our communities, which may be irreversible. Ultimately, if this does get passed and later studies find that more than 5% of Missouri's population can't take the driver examination, it will highlight the greater lack of English and language proficiency in the state due to poor school and education systems. The only ethical way to require English proficiency as a requirement to pass a Missouri Driver Examination is to build cities and communities where Missourians are not reliant on private car transportation but can thrive due to the sufficient infrastructure and maintenance of public transit, bicycle lanes, and walkable cities, until than it of your and our best interests to not require English proficiency as a part of Driver's Examination.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 1798</b>		DATE: <b>1/13/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>FAY A AUBUCHON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 8:29 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

I am opposed to House Bill 1798 because it will cause people to drive with no drivers license and no insurance. That is dangerous and not good for Missourians. Please use my taxpayer dollars for meaningful bills that help Missouri become stronger and more productive. Thank you



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 1798</b>		DATE: <b>1/13/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>GABRIELA STARK</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>417-421-6069</b>
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>IMMIGRATION JUSTICE COLLABORATIVE</b>		TITLE:
ADDRESS: <b>1500 E SYCAMORE ST</b>		
CITY: <b>OZARK</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>
		ZIP: <b>65721</b>
EMAIL: <b>stark.ela@gmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 2:29 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

I am a part of the Immigration Justice Collaborative and our concerns with Bill HB 1798 is that acquiring a driver's license will become less accessible for Latin Americans, Russians, Ukrainians, and more of our immigrants. It should be in Missouri's best interest to make sure that every person is able to access what they need in order to be a functioning member of society. Missouri does not contain any truly walkable cities, meaning a driver's license is crucial to be able to do everyday obligations like work, school, etc. HB 1798 requires driver's license exams to be only given in English. This bill would not be in the best interest of the people.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>GABRIELE EISSNER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 2:16 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 1798</b>		DATE: <b>1/13/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>GLORIA RODRIGUEZ</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 7:21 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**I oppose this because it is discriminatory and there is no reason why it shouldn't be translated. Immigrants are being targeted just because of the thought that illegal migrants might be taking tests, which they are not. English is not every one's 1st language, and although people can understand, they have the right to request one in their own language.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>GRACE BENTLEY</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 5:55 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

Is the goal to keep Missouri's roads safe and filled with legal, licensed drivers? Or is the goal to punish immigrants. This bill will lead people to drive without a license, making our roads less safe. This undermines the whole rational behind having drivers licenses in the first place, which is to have a registry of drivers. This bill will also hurt English-speaking adults who struggle to read and write. This is bad for everyone.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>GRACE ZAKY</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 11:27 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

I am submitting this testimony in opposition to HB 1798, which would require the drivers license exam to be administered in English and would prohibit the use of translators. For a nation of immigrants, it would be shameful and hypocritical to require the use of English to test a skill that does not require it beyond the understanding of road signs. Most immigrants and refugees sitting for a drivers license exam have already been driving successfully in their home countries for years, meaning this bill is at best useless in promoting safety and at worst another restriction on the success and wellbeing of those born in another country. I used to regularly tutor immigrants for the license exam, and it was a widely accepted fact that their driving skills were fine; it was English understanding that was a struggle. I would hate to see this become more of a problem by prohibiting the use of translators. Especially in Missouri, where public transportation is hardly an option and driving is necessary for economic stability, I hope this bill does not make it out of committee.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>IAN TAYLOR</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 8:41 AM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

To the Chairperson and Committee Members,

I urge you to stop and think clearly about the implications of this bill rather than just to pass it for political points and the brief, gross satisfaction of being cruel. This bill is first, completely unnecessary. You don't have to be a native English speaker to drive safely and obey our signs and traffic laws. I've navigated safely in foreign countries a number of times; have any of you? Second, this bill is economically irresponsible. Trucking is one of the largest industries that employs people with limited English proficiency and also people can't get to any job around here without a car. Y'all are always going on about how people need to have jobs, this bill makes that difficult to the point of impossible. To that point, many people will still try and get to work because they need the money, whether they have a license or not. This bill does nothing to address that and in fact makes us less safe. The licensing process as it exists with translations helps people understand how to use our roads and operate a motor vehicle safely. It also keeps a record, through licensing, who is on our roads and whether or not they've satisfied reasonable requirements to do so safely. Lastly, this bill is just plain racist. Thinking someone is less a Missourian or less able to be a contributing member of society just because they don't speak English fluently is racist. I'm tired of y'all wasting our time and money trying to push through legislation like this. If you spent half as much time trying to come up with creative solutions to lower costs and improve quality of life for normal people than Missouri would be a better place to live. I oppose this bill and ask that you please quit the hateful, partisan maneuvering and get back to work for the people of Missouri. Thank you for your time.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ISABELLA MENDEZ</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 9:57 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**There is no good reason for this bill to be passed.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ISAIAH COLEMAN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 6:36 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

My name is Isaiah Coleman, I live in Kansas City, Missouri, and I oppose bill HB 1798, requiring the written drivers license exam to be administered only in English and prohibiting the use of translators. I believe that this bill would reduce community safety by increasing the number of people driving without passing the license exam, that it is unnecessary because English language proficiency is incongruent with the language skills needed to safely drive a vehicle, that it is economically damaging by exacerbating workforce shortages in the trucking industry, and most importantly that it is discriminatory and exclusionary by preventing anyone with limited English proficiency from moving around freely like any other Missourians are able to do.

It is for these reasons that I am in opposition to bill HB 1798 - Driver's Examination Requirements. I believe it to be unrealistic, undermining to local communities, and downright discriminatory. Thank you for your time in reading this.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 1798</b>		DATE: <b>1/13/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>JANE PRYOR</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 6:47 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

This bill would reduce community safety because out of necessity people would drive without the training and testing that getting a license requires. It is unnecessary. The level of language fluency required is above the necessary language skills needed to understand traffic signs, most of which are symbols. It is economically irresponsible; would hurt the trucking industry. It is discriminatory and exclusionary.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>JANICE FRIESEN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 8:18 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

Representative Sassman and members of the committee, My name is Janice Friesen. I live in Kansas City. I am writing in opposition to HB 1798. This bill is discriminatory and will severely hurt the trucking industry and cause unemployment. Also, the bill is unnecessary since the skills of safe driving are not dependent on speaking English. I opposed HB1798. Thanks for listening.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>JARED COLE GILBERT</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 6:29 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**HB 1798 - Sassmann - DRIVER'S EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS is clearly a discriminatory attempt to disenfranchise people of their basic rights such as freedom of movement. Additionally, the law also will incentivize people to drive without a license creating dangerous conditions on our roads with the only people benefiting being politicians that can use the irresponsible conditions they themselves create to score points against the immigrant community. Stop wasting Missourians time trying to divide us.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>JASON A CORPORON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 6:36 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**This proposed legislation is steeped in racism. Attempting to deny non-English speakers the right to apply for a driver's license is unconstitutional, cruel, and absurd. The Republican Party continues to advance a fascist, white supremacist agenda that will damage our country for generations. This is disgusting, and anyone who votes in favor of it should be ashamed.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>JENNIFER TELFER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 12:50 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

I am a Missourian who has traveled and lived abroad extensively. In different countries where I have lived, it has been a great help to take the driver's license exam in English. Although I studied and learned the languages where I lived (Thailand and South Korea), the technical terms used in a written driving exam would have been beyond my comprehension level and the professional language related to my work in those countries. Please extend the same courtesy to migrant workers and immigrants as the governments of Thailand and South Korea extended to me and foreigners here.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>JESSE SULLINGER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 5:26 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

This bill would increase the number of people driving without passing driver's license exams. When people are able to get licenses, it means that they completed training and testing, improving road safety for all. The level of language fluency required by this bill is incongruent with the actual language skills required to understand traffic signs. The vast majority of traffic signs are symbols that are not written. Additionally, trucking is one of the largest industries that employs people of limited English proficiency. This bill would severely hurt the trucking industry by exacerbating workforce shortages, thus negatively impacting our economy. This bill is discriminatory and exclusionary. All Missourians need to travel to work, school, the store, the doctor's office, etc. Everyone deserves fair and equitable access to getting a driver's license so we can all move around freely in the safest way possible.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>JESSICA HARVATH</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 6:56 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

I used to work at the International Institute, a refugee resettlement agency in St. Louis, as a job developer. It was my job to help immigrants and refugees with legal work authorization find employment, and access to transportation to jobs was one of the biggest barriers to gainful employment. When a member of an immigrant community is able to drive, this improves economic opportunities for ALL members of their family and community and reduces dependence on public resources. This bill will economically hurt the St. Louis area and create greater dependence on public resources for members of these communities. Please vote against this bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 1798</b>		DATE: <b>1/13/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>JESSICA OLIPHANT</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 6:55 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

Dear committee members and chairman,

My name is Jessica. I am a Missouri resident, living in the Kansas City portion of Jackson County. My zip code is 64114. I oppose HB 1798. I think this bill will decrease community safety because more people will be driving without proper training. There isn't reliable transportation throughout the state to ensure that folks would have alternative options. Additionally, this bill is entirely unnecessary. Street signs are primarily identified through pictures, and driving doesn't require fluency in English. I believe this bill is purely discriminatory, so I adamantly oppose it.

Thank you for your time.  
Jessica



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>JOHNDA BOYCE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 7:04 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

**I think this bill is unnecessary and will hurt the trucking companies of state. Symbols are widely used in our road markings, and I know the trucker companies depend on drivers whose first language is not English. It's a solution in search of a problem, and I oppose this bill.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>JOY MART</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 9:51 AM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

Chairman and Members of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee,

My name is Joy and I am a resident of Missouri in Clay County. I am writing to express my opposition to HB 1798. This bill is unnecessary and discriminatory. It is unnecessary for 2 reasons: first, there is no data to suggest that non-English speakers are causing unsafety on roads due to a language barrier, second, there is no reason to be fluent in English to read and comprehend traffic signals and signs and maintain road safety.

The bill is discriminatory as well. First, in the fact that one is not allowed to limit an individual's freedom based on their race or spoken language. This legislation would prevent families from going to grocery stores, travelling to school, or a park, etc in a state where public transportation and alternatives to car transportation are deeply underfunded and practically non-existent. Limiting individual freedom because you are scared of another language is childish, un-American, and straight up disgusting. Second, we do not have a declared official language in this country or state, so choosing English over Spanish is an obvious tactic of hate and discrimination and not a matter of following some arbitrary official language standard. I do not wish to be in a world where fear of another language prevents someone else from accessing basic needs and services.

There are many reasons to oppose HB 1798, and zero reasons to support it. If you support it you are telling Missourians that you value hate and discrimination. I am not being dramatic. There are zero reasons to support this legislation.

Please use your hearts and brains and reject this dumb bill presented by Bruce. Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>JULIE DOBBINS</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:                  ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 6:27 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

**This is an absolutely racist bill. People who cannot read in English can absolutely be excellent drivers. Many truck drivers have limited English skills and passing this bill will further exacerbate employee shortages in trucking and other fields.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>KAITLIN SEYMOUR</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 1:10 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

**This is a dehumanizing and spiteful bill. As someone who believes that everyone should have opportunities in our beautiful state, this is a precedent that will lead to more hate down the road. Kansas City has been reducing the access to public transit, without they ability to drive people would be ruined for job opportunities, ability to go to appointments, live in the neighborhoods they want, or take care of basic needs, like grocery shopping. This is truly a poorly thought out plan that will harm working people.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>KARA WERNER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 10:18 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

**This is completely unnecessary and nothing more than a furthering of the horrific acts of discrimination and dehumanization running rampant in our country right now. I oppose HB 1798.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>KATE BENDER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 8:45 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

I would like to express opposition to this bill. This bill supports discrimination against English language learners. The ability to drive is essential in a state like Missouri that is largely rural and has limited public transportation. Driving is necessary for basic needs as well as to work; knowing English is not necessary to drive - road signs are largely based on symbols or can be easily memorized. This bill will 1) limit self determination and pursuit of work for people and 2) make the roads less safe for everyone else when people are forced to drive without being legally licensed.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>KATE BROOKS</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 8:52 AM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

HB 1798 would increase the number of people driving WITHOUT passing a drivers license exam. When people are actually able to get licenses, that means they have completed training and testing--and making roads safer for all.

The level of language fluency required by the bill is not in keeping with the actual language skills required to safely drive--the vast majority of traffic signs are symbols, not the written word.

This bill is also economically irresponsible--tracking is one of the largest industries that employs people with limited English. This bill would exacerbate workforce shortages.

All people in Missouri need to travel to work, school, stores, and hospitals. Being limited in English does not mean that people shouldn't have the ability to move about freely. Missouri does not have any sort of reliable means of public transportation so HB 1798 is discriminatory and exclusionary.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>KATHLEEN WARD</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 5:59 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**This bill is racist.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>KATHLEEN WHILE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 6:10 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

I oppose HB 1798. I want people to be able to drive themselves to work while they are in the process of learning English.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>KATIE JONES</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 6:03 PM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

This law inhibits the ability for law abiding citizens who's first language is Spanish from participating in their community. It is completely unnecessary because a driver's competency doesn't depend on them knowing English, it depends on them having driving knowledge and ability to adhere to traffic signs, signals and be generally alert and sober. HB1798 is discriminatory, and also economically irresponsible. The trucking industry employs many individuals with limited English proficiency and it would exacerbate workforce shortages. All Missourians should be able to travel to work and around their community if they have the competency to drive.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>KATRINA BUSHYHEAD</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 1:28 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**This is discrimination and exclusion based. All Missourians need to travel to work, school, the grocery store, the doctor, etc. Access to driver's licenses is about recognizing that people with limited English proficiency (including English speakers) should have the ability to move around freely, like everyone else. Do the right thing for Missouri and reject this bill.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>KELLY</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 5:25 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**This bill should not be passed. Removal of translators encourages drivers to continue driving just simply without a drivers license. This bill serves no greater purpose to society.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>KELSEY RHODES</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 9:37 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

Thank you Missouri House of Representatives. My name is Kelsey Rhodes, I am a proud Kansas City resident in Jackson County, and I am writing to urge Representatives to vote no on HB 1798. If passed, HB 1798 would create unnecessary and cruel barriers between many of our neighbors and residents and their ability to get to their jobs, homes, businesses, and places of worship.

We deserve safe streets, for all of us. If HB 1798 is passed, it will not stop people who speak other languages from driving, it will instead encourage more drivers to drive without a license, without understanding the rules of the road, and without maintaining driving education over time.

Additionally, speaking English is not a pre-requisite for driving a car. Over the five years, I was welcomed to non-English speaking countries and safely drove a car to complete personal and business travel. Driving is a basic skill used by people around the world, and passing this law would make Missouri unsafe for all of us. It would create a precedent that would eventually create barriers for English speakers in non-English speaking countries from driving, a privilege I am sure we all would rather not lose.

If passed, this would be textbook discrimination, plain and simple. Restricting basic rights like transportation from people because of their English proficiency is creating a further class of "haves" and "have nots." Our communities, our local economy, and our safety will suffer.

Please vote no on HB 1798 to protect drivers of all ages, all backgrounds, and who speak different languages.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>KENDRA MUIR</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 2:23 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

HB 1798 would increase the number of people driving WITHOUT passing a drivers license exam. Those with licenses have have completed training and testing--and making roads safer for all. The level of language fluency required by the bill is not in keeping with the actual language skills required to safely drive--the vast majority of traffic signs are symbols, not the written word. This bill is also economically irresponsible--tracking is one of the largest industries that employs people with limited English. This bill would exacerbate workforce shortages. All people in Missouri need to travel to work, school, stores, and hospitals. Being limited in English does not mean that people shouldn't have the ability to move about freely. Missouri does not have any sort of reliable means of public transportation so HB 1798 is discriminatory and exclusionary.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>KIM WAGNER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 2:58 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**This bill is discriminatory and wrong**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>KISHA BANISTER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 6:57 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**This bill is not only harmful to people groups and communities in Missouri, it is also completely outlandish and stands against what America was built on: a melting pot of people. You do not have to speak English to be an American.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>LAUREN HIRSCHMANN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>LIFEWISESTL</b>		TITLE: <b>BILINGUAL FINANCIAL WELLNESS COACH</b>	
ADDRESS:			
CITY: <b>SAINT LOUIS</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63104</b>
EMAIL: <b>lhirschmann@lifewisestl.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 9:33 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

House Transportation Committee  
 House Bill 1798  
 January 13th, 2026

Dear committee members,

My name is Lauren H and I live and work in St. Louis, Missouri. I am a Bilingual Financial Wellness Coach at LifeWiseSTL, a social services nonprofit that has been open since 1902 that is dedicated to financial, personal, and communal empowerment. I urge you to vote No on HB 1798 because it would harm our communities in devastating ways. HB 1798 is unnecessary, economically irresponsible, discriminatory, and reduces community safety.

Firstly, this bill is economically irresponsible. HB 1798 would severely hurt the trucking industry, exacerbating existing workforce shortages. Second, HB 1798 is unnecessary because most traffic signs are visual cues that can be understood without an advanced English proficiency. Lastly, HB 1798 is discriminatory and exclusionary. When the driver's test is only offered in English, without necessary translation, this is unjust to those with limited English proficiency, including many of the hardworking clients I talk with every day.

One of my clients, lets call her J, uses a car to get to work every day. She has a daughter with a chronic illness, who she drives to and from life saving medical appointments at hospitals in the county multiple times a month. If her driver's test had only been offered in English, which is not J's native language, she would not have gotten a license. In other words, even though she possesses the necessary competencies to be a safe and responsible driver, the very qualities a driver's test purports to assess, J would be ineligible for a license solely due to a lack of language access. J's life would be much harder without access to a license, which has been a crucial tool in providing her family of 5 with financial stability and vital healthcare.

Driving is more than a mode of transportation — it plays a key role in someone's ability to sustain a steady income. Having a valid driver's license and access to a vehicle are essential to securing and maintaining employment. These resources allow individuals to consider jobs that are not easily accessible by public transportation or that require travel to multiple locations. Some may argue that those with limited English proficiency should rely on public transportation or ride share apps like Uber

if they cannot pass a test in English. However, this is discriminatory and costly.

Some of my clients who make just over minimum wage spend \$200 on Uber monthly while simultaneously trying to save up to purchase a car through our Individual Development Account (IDA) Match Savings Program because they do not feel safe on public transportation. While public transportation is an option in St Louis, it is not always a reliable one, particularly for gender minorities and/or black and brown folks who fear violence they may face if they are targeted. This \$200 is money that most of my low and middle income clients don't have to spare in their budget, funds they could use instead to purchase diapers for their children, put more nutrient rich food on the table, or help loved ones with medical expenses. It hurts me to imagine how much the people of our state, often the same immigrants who are systematically targeted by racist and xenophobic policy, would be harmed by this hateful bill.

I implore you to vote No on HB 1798 if you believe in an economically thriving, welcoming, and just Missouri. Thank you for your time.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>LEIGH ANNE ROGERS</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:                  ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 7:42 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

I oppose HB1798 because it could make our community less safe by increasing the number of unlicensed drivers on our roadways. This bill will also negatively impact the trucking industry as the majority of drivers employed have limited english proficiency. It is also discriminatory.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 1798</b>		DATE: <b>1/13/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>LINDA KAY SINGER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 5:30 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

Dear Missouri State Legislative Committee Chairman and Committee Members,  
My name is Linda Kay Singer. I live in Jackson County in KC, Missouri, and am a registered 78 year old white female voter. I do not support bill HB179 because it is "Discriminatory and Exclusionary".  
"Reduces Community Safety because it increases the # of people with no drivers license".  
"Is completely Unnecessary because traffic signs are symbols, not written."  
"Is Economically Irresponsible because it would hurt the trucking industry since drivers with limited English would be effected, exacerbating workforce shortages".  
Therefore, I do not support bill HB1798.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Linda Kay Singer



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>LISA SILVERMAN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 1:44 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

**I oppose anything that prohibits translation services to those who need them.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>LYDIA ROSE ELY WEAVER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 7:48 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

Hello committee chairman and members,

I am Lydia Weaver, I live in Kansas City Missouri. I oppose HB 1798. I believe this bill would make driving less safe for everyone and is unfair to Kansas City citizens who don't speak English as their first language.

I know many friends and neighbors who live here and are still learning English. It is much easier to learn how to drive than it is to become fluent in a language. I don't believe those citizens should fail their drivers test because they don't understand a question in English. Because English proficiency has nothing to do with good driving knowledge and skills.

I also believe that because our city is not the most walkable, driving is still sometimes a necessity, so there could be individuals who would give up on working on their drivers test if they see their lack of English proficiency getting in the way. This could lead to people deciding to drive without a license because they see the test as impossible even if they were to study for it. This would make the streets less safe for everyone.

So for the safety and fairness to all Missouri citizens, I oppose HB 1798

Thank you for your time,  
 Lydia Weaver



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MADISON JONES</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 6:12 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MAGGIE EDMONDSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
REPRESENTING: <b>ABORTION ACTION MISSOURI</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>PO BOX 63219</b>			
CITY: <b>ST. LOUIS</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63163</b>
EMAIL: <b>maggie@abortionactionmissouri.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 11:46 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MAGGIE FOSHEE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 6:02 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**This bill would increase the number of people driving without passing a driver license exam. When completing an exam it proves they are prepared to be on the road. I care about community safety and this bill impedes on my values. This bill would also hurt the trucking industry. You also don't need to speak English in order to drive so this makes no sense.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>MAGGIE STANTON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 8:36 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

Hello committee chair and members,

My name is Maggie Stanton, and I have worked in adult education for seven years. I ask you to oppose HB 1798 as it is economically irresponsible. In the field of adult education, many people find fulfilling work in trucking by earning their Commercial Driver's License (CDL-A). Trucking is the largest industry employing people with limited English proficiency. This bill will severely damage the trucking economy, an industry which is already impacted by growing labor shortages.

Please vote no on HB 1798. Thank you for your time.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MANFREDO ANDRE FLORES CRUZ</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 8:33 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**Why are we wasting our tax money on this? Instead of focusing on fabricated barriers that limit people's access to basic needs, you should be focusing on actually helping Missourians who do not even have access to public transportation.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MARK TERHAAR</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 8:42 PM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

**40 of 50 states including Texas have Spanish language drivers license testing because it makes roads safer and ensures the states remain competitive. Missouri needs to keep the Spanish test and remain competitive and safe - including CDL.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MAYCEE NICHOLSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 8:24 AM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**This bill is racist, discriminatory, and exclusionary. As a resident of Missouri I am appalled by this bill and vehemently oppose it.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MEGAN BAUTISTA</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 5:26 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to HB 1798.

Requiring driver’s license exams to be administered only in English and prohibiting the use of translators creates unnecessary barriers for many qualified, responsible residents. Language proficiency does not equate to driving ability. This bill would exclude capable drivers who contribute to our communities, workforce, and economy, while doing nothing to improve road safety.

Language access ensures that individuals fully understand traffic laws, signage, and safety requirements. Removing translation support increases the risk of misunderstanding, not because people are unwilling to comply, but because they are denied the tools needed to demonstrate their knowledge accurately.

Policies like HB 1798 disproportionately impact immigrants, refugees, and long-term residents who may speak English as a second language but rely on driving to work, care for family members, attend school, and access essential services. Denying access to a license does not stop people from driving. It only increases the number of unlicensed and uninsured drivers on the road, which is counterproductive to public safety.

Our state has long recognized the importance of inclusivity and practicality. Maintaining language access in driver testing supports safer roads, stronger communities, and a more equitable system.

I respectfully urge the committee to oppose HB 1798 and ensure this bill does not advance.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
**Megan Bautista**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MEGAN M MARTINEZ</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 8:37 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**I oppose this discriminatory bill.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MELANIE BUSSE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 7:17 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**This bill would prevent a legal citizen from voting because of a language barrier, and violates that citizen's legal right.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MELANIE RODRIGUEZ</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 9:32 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**This bill creates unnecessary barriers for immigrants. English only testing demands fluency far beyond what driving requires. My family should not be required to take a literacy exam to be allowed to drive when Missouri already uses symbol based traffic signs. An exam compromises equality and strips families of being able to obtain jobs and healthcare. This is beyond driving.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>MICHAEL KELLEY</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 8:38 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

I'm writing the following testimony in opposition to HB 1798. My reason for opposing this measure is simple: it will not make our roads safer for Missourians.

Driver's education is already very bad in Missouri. According a 2024 analysis done by USA Today, 51.3% of people who took a driving exam in Missouri failed. Only one state, Indiana, had a higher failure rate.

Requiring that driver's exam materials be written in English won't make Missouri roads safer. It simply means fewer Missourians will have the resources they need to follow the laws created by policymaking bodies like the state legislature. That's wrong.

I ask you all to oppose HB 1798.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>MILES PEARSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 5:19 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

**HB 1798 IS ECONOMICALLY IRRESPONSIBLE.**

**Trucking is one of the largest industries that employs people with limited English proficiency. This bill would severely hurt the trucking industry, by exacerbating workforce shortages.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>MIRJAM S COLLEGEMAN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 11:00 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

To: The Transportation Committee

I am opposing the proposed HB1798 which would require the MO Driver's Licence Exam to be administered in English and prohibit translators.

In Missouri our public transportation is very sparse, so having a driver's licence is essential in order to get to work, to appointments, grocery store and more. This bill targets and discriminates against non-English speaking communities who are an important part of our economic growth. For instance, the trucking industry has a serious shortage for their workforce, this bill would hurt them directly. The actual language skills to safely drive a vehicle do not require proficiency in English, as most of the traffic signs are symbols. This bill would increase the number of people who would not complete the training and testing required for getting a license, and they would end up driving without a licence.

All in all, this bill would be detrimental to the economy of the state and negatively impact the road safety for all of us. Please vote no for this bill.

Respectfully,  
Mirjam Collegeman  
750 Woodridge Heights Ct. Manchester, MO 63011



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MONET KUNDE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 4:09 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**This is an extremely exclusionary bill. People should be able to access resources to help them read/understand in their native language.**



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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MORGAN MURPHY</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 11:39 AM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**This bill is unrealistic, undermines communities, and is merely discriminatory.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>NICOLE DE SANTOS</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 7:43 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am here today in opposition to House Bill 1798 because it creates barriers that make everyday life more difficult and less safe for many Missourians—without improving road safety or government efficiency.

A driver’s license is more than permission to operate a vehicle. For many people, it is the most accessible and reliable form of identification. It is required to verify identity at a doctor’s office, enroll children in school, pick them up from childcare, access banking services, apply for housing, and interact with state and local institutions. When the state restricts access to driver’s licenses through English-only testing, it effectively restricts access to participation in public life.

HB 1798 assumes that English fluency is necessary for safe driving. That assumption is flawed. Driving competency is demonstrated through understanding road rules, visual cues, symbols, and practical skills. Missouri roads are navigated through signs, lights, and symbols that are intentionally designed to be understood across languages. Requiring English-only written testing imposes a linguistic barrier that has no demonstrated connection to safety outcomes.

Instead, this bill would push people out of the licensing system altogether. When residents cannot access licenses legally, they are more likely to drive without them—not because they are unsafe drivers, but because they still need to get to work, school, medical appointments, and grocery stores. That result undermines public safety and weakens trust between communities and the state.

Language access is a standard, practical tool used across government agencies to ensure compliance, safety, and inclusion. Removing it does not promote integration; it creates isolation. Missouri should be encouraging lawful participation in its systems, not narrowing the door to entry.

Many of the people affected by HB 1798 are long-term residents, workers, parents, and taxpayers. They contribute to Missouri’s economy and civic life every day. Policies that limit their ability to obtain identification and move safely through their communities treat language difference as a liability rather than a reality of a diverse state.

At a time when Missouri faces real challenges—economic development, infrastructure, healthcare access—this bill diverts attention toward policing language rather than solving problems. It does not address a demonstrated need, nor does it improve outcomes for Missouri residents.

**I urge this committee to reject HB 1798 and support policies that expand access, improve safety, and allow all Missourians to participate fully and lawfully in their communities.**

**Thank you for your time and consideration.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>OLGA SALAZAR</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 12:39 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

Dear chairman and committee members,

I oppose bill HB1798 that undermines and hinders community members that are not proficient English speakers. As you may know or may not know it is difficult to learn another language as an adult. It is not too difficult to learn to drive and learn traffic signs without being proficient English speakers. Our community needs to be able to obtain their drivers licenses to be able to continue to have the freedom to go to work, doctors appointments, and travel thus continue to contribute to our economy. The state economy benefits from people being able to obtain their drivers licenses. Please vote no on this bill HB1798. Thank you. From your voting community member.

Olga Salazar



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 1798</b>		DATE: <b>1/13/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>PAIGE SPINDLER-RICHARDSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 7:38 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

I'm contacting you to oppose to HB 1798, which is inherently and blatantly discriminatory to Missourians who speak languages other than English or for whom English is a second language. Every person in our state should have the right to obtain a driver's license, as it is a necessary piece of identification for modern life both as a driver and a key to accessing many critical parts of society. Obstructing that right hurts our state on a public safety level, as many people would have no choice but to drive without being licensed, and severely impacts our economy by restricting recruitment for our state's trucking workforce as an industry that employs a high percentage of people who are not proficient in English. I urge the committee to vote NO on HB 1798 for the safety and equity of our communities.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>		
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>PAM LANHAM</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 12:09 PM</b>
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**Pure discrimination! We can be a melting pot without total assimilation.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>PATRICIA S SETARI</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 6:15 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

**My name is Patricia Setari. I live in Independence, Missouri, and I am testifying today as a private citizen in opposition to House Bill 1798.**

**I oppose HB 1798 because it reduces community safety, is unnecessary, economically irresponsible, and discriminatory in effect. By requiring the written driver’s license exam to be administered only in English and prohibiting translators, this bill would prevent otherwise qualified drivers from obtaining a license. That does not make our roads safer—it does the opposite by increasing the number of unlicensed, uninsured drivers.**

**Licensing ensures that drivers have completed testing and training. When barriers are placed in the way of lawful licensing, people still have to drive to work, school, medical appointments, and the grocery store. HB 1798 undermines public safety by discouraging compliance rather than promoting it. I have worked and lived alongside Missourians with limited English proficiency—many of whom are careful, experienced drivers and essential workers, including in trucking and logistics. Traffic safety relies on understanding road rules and symbols, most of which are not language-based, not on English fluency. This bill imposes a language requirement that is disconnected from the actual skills needed to safely operate a vehicle.**

**HB 1798 is also economically irresponsible. Missouri already faces workforce shortages, particularly in industries that rely on licensed drivers. This bill would make those shortages worse without delivering any measurable benefit.**

**For these reasons, I strongly oppose HB 1798. It makes Missouri less safe, less fair, and less economically competitive.**

**Thank you for your time and for considering my testimony.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>PATRICIA S SETARI</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 6:22 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**My name is Patricia Setari. I live in Independence, Missouri, and I am testifying today as a private citizen in opposition to House Bill 1798.**

**I oppose HB 1798 because it reduces community safety, is unnecessary, economically irresponsible, and discriminatory in effect. By requiring the written driver’s license exam to be administered only in English and prohibiting translators, this bill would prevent otherwise qualified drivers from obtaining a license. That does not make our roads safer—it does the opposite by increasing the number of unlicensed, uninsured drivers.**

**Licensing ensures that drivers have completed testing and training. When barriers are placed in the way of lawful licensing, people still have to drive to work, school, medical appointments, and the grocery store. HB 1798 undermines public safety by discouraging compliance rather than promoting it. I have worked and lived alongside Missourians with limited English proficiency—many of whom are careful, experienced drivers and essential workers, including in trucking and logistics. Traffic safety relies on understanding road rules and symbols, most of which are not language-based, not on English fluency. This bill imposes a language requirement that is disconnected from the actual skills needed to safely operate a vehicle.**

**HB 1798 is also economically irresponsible. Missouri already faces workforce shortages, particularly in industries that rely on licensed drivers. This bill would make those shortages worse without delivering any measurable benefit.**

**For these reasons, I strongly oppose HB 1798. It makes Missouri less safe, less fair, and less economically competitive.**

**Thank you for your time and for considering my testimony.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>RACHEL AUBUCHON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 6:49 AM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

Dear committee chairman and committee members,

My name is Rachel Aubuchon. I am a Missouri resident writing to express my opposition to Missouri House Bill 1798.

Summarize reasons. I find this bill exclusionary, discriminatory, irresponsible, and frankly, unnecessary. By requiring the driver's license test to be completed in English and not allowing translators, you would be discriminating against Missourians whose first language is Spanish. You would essentially be making them second class citizens and denying them freedom of movement, causing them to either a) become housebound and unable to work and care for themselves or b) forcing them to drive without a license to support themselves and their families, making the roads less safe. This is both exclusionary and irresponsible.

It is also unnecessary - there is no reason to make the test solely in English. The infrastructure for testing in Spanish and supporting translators already exists, and the capacity to speak and read English while driving is not necessary. Most signs are symbolized anyway. Aside from street signs, which are proper names and not in a particular language. My street name is Toenges. You think a Spanish speaking person would have any more trouble than an English speaking person with that street name? Google Maps can't even pronounce that street name.

For these reasons as well as basic human decency in a time of increased cruelty to immigrants and Spanish-speaking citizens, I am against HB 1798.

Thank you for your time and attention.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>RAYMOND ZAHRA</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 4:49 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

This bill would increase the number of people driving without passing a driver's license exam. When people are able to get licenses, that means that they completed training and testing, improving road safety for all.

**HB 1798 IS COMPLETELY UNNECESSARY.** The level of language fluency required by this bill is incongruent with the actual language skills required to safely drive a vehicle. You don't need any language skills to understand traffic signs. The vast majority of traffic signs are symbols that are not written.

**HB 1798 IS ECONOMICALLY IRRESPONSIBLE.** Trucking is one of the largest industries that employs people with limited English proficiency. This bill would severely hurt the trucking industry, by exacerbating workforce shortages. **HB 1798 IS DISCRIMINATORY AND EXCLUSIONARY.** All Missourians need to travel to work, school, the grocery store, the doctor's office, etc. Access to driver's licenses is about recognizing that people with limited English proficiency should have the ability to move around freely, like everyone else.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>RENEE STUART</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 5:28 PM</b>
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>ROBIN NAZARAEAN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 6:56 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

To the committee chairman and members, thank you for your time and consideration. My name is Robin, I've lived in Kansas City, Missouri since I was 18, and I oppose HB 1798. This bill would reduce community safety by increasing the number of drivers without a license. This bill is a waste of time for the legislature as it is unnecessary as most traffic signs are symbols with very little text. This bill would harm the trucking industry by reducing the number of drivers eligible to work in the industry. And this bill is discriminatory in nature as everyone needs to be able to drive to their place of employment, their doctors, schools, churches, and grocery stores. Due to these reasons I believe the committee must vote in opposition to this bill. Thank you again for your time.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>ROBYN COTTIN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 5:30 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

**My name is Robyn Cottin and I live in Kansas City Missouri. I oppose HB1798 because it is discriminatory, unnecessary, it reduces public safety, and is economically irresponsible. Requiring the examination for a drivers license to be in English will not only increase the number of drivers on the road that are not properly licensed to drive, but it will hurt the trucking industry, and reduce the number of individuals who will be able to take jobs outside of their neighborhood because of transportation issues, thus reducing the available workforce for businesses in the state.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ROCIO DE SANTIAGO</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 9:39 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**This is discrimination. Say no to HB 1798. The citizenship test is available in Spanish. This bill would discriminate against U.S. citizens.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>RYLIE WILLSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 7:09 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

Thank you to the chairman and committee for taking the time to listen to me and those of us who oppose. My name is Rylie Willson. I am a resident of Grain Valley, MO and I'm a born and raised in the greater KC area. I strongly oppose bill 1798. I see no valid reason as to why English should be considered mandatory to receive necessary legal documentation. The beauty of this city and this country is the melting pot of people we have the pleasure to call Americans, and I include those who are documented and undocumented when I say that. English is not the only language spoken in the USA, nor is it the only major language spoken here. Our top spoken languages include Spanish, Arabic, Vietnamese, and Chinese, just to name a few. When we have so many people from so many beautiful backgrounds, we should create spaces for everyone to be accommodated. Furthermore, there is a brilliant level of brain power you have to have in order to speak more than one language, so translators should be viewed as the most intelligent and respectable geniuses among us. For 3 years, I worked at Ulta Beauty in Lees Summit, where we had the pleasure of having several guests who spoke little to no English, and felt much more comfortable speaking Arabic or Spanish. I was all ready to pull up a translator app if needed, because it was far more important to me to ensure this person was getting what they wanted than anything else. At different points, we had employees who were multilingual, who were able to make our guests feel more comfortable, safe, cared for, and accommodated. Everyone deserves to be respected and listened to, and language is just a simple barrier. This bill is pointless and opposes everything that is beautiful about this city. Because of my respect and awe for translators, my care for ALL people - regardless of their native language, country of origin, culture, etc., I firmly oppose this bill. Once again, I thank you for your time, and I hope you are actually listening.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>SAGE CORAM</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
REPRESENTING: <b>AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION OF MISSOURI</b>		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY: <b>ST. LOUIS</b>	STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63101</b>
EMAIL: <b>scoram@aclu-mo.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 9:17 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

Dear Chairman and Committee Members:

On behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union of Missouri and our approximately 15,000 members statewide, we urge you to oppose HB 1798, which would require the written portion of the Missouri driver's license exam to be administered only in English and prohibit the use of translators. Simply put, HB 1798 is a discriminatory policy change that enacts unnecessary barriers to licenses while failing to solve a real problem in our state.

Missourians speak, use, read, and understand a variety of languages and this bill seeks to deny that reality. For people with limited English proficiency, being unable to access a driver's license would substantially impact a variety of daily movements and activities – i.e. getting to work, school, places of worship, doctor's appointments, grocery stores and more. "English-only" policies, like HB 1798, do not increase language fluency or improve civic participation, but rather serve to exclude members of our community.

Language access is essential for preserving civil liberties and is critical to ensure that all residents of Missouri can receive services and communicate effectively with government agencies. In effect, HB 1798 would restrict freedom of movement, undermine equal access, and diminish the dignity and worth of families and communities across Missouri.

For these reasons, the ACLU of Missouri opposes HB 1798, and we urge the Committee to vote against this bill.

Sincerely,  
Sage Coram



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>SAGE GARRETSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 7:39 PM</b>
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I am writing to ask you to oppose HB 1798. While seemingly about standards, this bill will have the opposite effect on public safety. By restricting access to driver's licenses, we are simply increasing the number of people driving without insurance, training, or passing an exam. We need more insured, tested drivers on the road, not fewer.

Additionally, this bill places an undue burden on Missouri businesses. The trucking industry, which is already facing workforce challenges, employs many hard-working individuals with limited English proficiency. This bill would cut that workforce significantly, hurting our local economy.

Since traffic safety relies on visual symbols rather than written paragraphs, this legislation is an unnecessary bureaucratic hurdle that solves no problems but creates many new ones.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>SAMIYA RASHEED</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 6:47 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

Thank you, members of of the Transportation Committee. I appreciate your reception of testimony. I am Samiya Rasheed, and I live in Kansas though I am often in Missouri. I ask that you all oppose HB 1798.

As someone who has non-native English speakers as parents, I know that learning English can take quite a long time. I also know that learning it at a technical level or in a written format can take longer. That being said, driving is almost an essential skill for life in the Midwest. It's how my parents got to their jobs, dropped me off at school, got groceries, and so many other things.

Limiting the ability of many Americans to receive a driver's license by preventing translators will deeply harm many in our community by preventing these essential tasks. The amount of English needed to safely drive compared to the amount needed for a more technical written exam as incongruous; drivers who are aided by translators during examinations are still safe drivers.

The passage of this bill would prevent average members of our community from being able to fully live their lives, teach their children, and take their place in our workforce. Especially knowing that so many of them, like my own parents once did, are actively increasing their English fluency but haven't completely mastered it.

I ask that you all oppose HB 1798 for 2026. Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SARAH BERRY</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 6:49 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

I submit this testimony in opposition to HB 1798.  
 HB 1798 proposes to require the Missouri driver’s license written examination to be administered exclusively in English and prohibits the use of translators. This policy constitutes discriminatory treatment based on language, which functions as a proxy for national origin and immigration status. Access to a driver’s license is not a privilege tied to cultural assimilation; it is a basic public function tied to mobility, employment, family stability, and legal compliance. Preventing otherwise qualified individuals from demonstrating their knowledge of traffic laws solely because they require language assistance does not improve public safety — it excludes people from lawful participation. Missouri already requires drivers to understand traffic signs, signals, and rules of the road. A translated written exam does not diminish safety; it ensures comprehension. Prohibiting translation does not measure driving competence — it measures English fluency, which is not the purpose of a driving exam.  
 This bill would disproportionately impact:  
 immigrants and refugees,  
 lawful residents learning English,  
 and individuals from multilingual households,  
 without any demonstrated public benefit. That is the definition of discriminatory policy. Missouri should be focused on ensuring safe, informed drivers, not erecting barriers that prevent people from complying with the law. HB 1798 does the opposite.  
 For these reasons, I strongly urge the committee to oppose HB 1798.  
 Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>SARAH FELTS</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 1:22 PM</b>
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SHELLY DYER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 9:30 PM</b>	
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**I am a lifelong Missourian opposed the change requiring drivers tests to be taken only in English.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 1798</b>		DATE: <b>1/13/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SIEARRA ACKLEY</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 6:38 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**I oppose this bill with everything in me.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SKYLER HAWKINS</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 9:54 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

I am respectfully submitting my testimony in **OPPOSITION** of HB 1798. This bill is discriminatory and exclusionary. Everyone deserves the access to transportation. I am much more concerned about if the person on the road with me has passed the **MOTOR OPERATING TEST** than if they are english speaking or not. Common sense tells us and so does the road sign test administered at the DMV, that most of our road signs are just that -- large recognizable symbols have very little writing. We all know that a green light means go and a red light means stop -- **IN ANY LANGUAGE**. Please vote **NO** on this bill and use our tax dollars, including your time and resources, on topics that Missourians actually care about and not passing blatantly discriminatory policies to appease current political times. Now more than ever, Missourians are paying attention. How you spend your time in Jefferson City and the policies you support or oppose is important. History has its eyes on you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SONIA MEDELLIN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 9:22 AM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

I strongly oppose HB1798, which would require the driver’s license written exam to be administered only in English and prohibit the use of translators.

This bill creates unnecessary and harmful barriers for immigrant communities, refugees, and individuals with limited English proficiency who live, work, and contribute to our state. The ability to safely operate a motor vehicle is not determined by English fluency, but by understanding traffic laws, road signs, and safe driving practices. Allowing written exams in multiple languages or with qualified translators ensures that drivers truly comprehend the rules of the road—enhancing public safety for everyone.

Prohibiting translators does not make our roads safer. In fact, it does the opposite by discouraging eligible drivers from obtaining licenses, pushing them to drive without one out of necessity. This increases the risk of uninsured driving, hit-and-run accidents, and reduced cooperation with law enforcement.

HB1798 also unfairly targets communities who already face systemic barriers. Many lawful residents, asylum seekers, survivors of violence, and workers essential to our economy rely on driving to access employment, medical care, education, and childcare. Denying them language access deepens inequality and undermines our state’s commitment to inclusion and fairness.

Language access is a proven, practical solution—not a privilege. States across the country successfully administer driver’s license exams in multiple languages while maintaining rigorous safety standards. HB1798 moves us backward, not forward.

For these reasons, I urge lawmakers to reject HB1798 and instead support policies that promote road safety, inclusion, and equal access for all residents.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SONJA HITCHCOCK</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 9:20 PM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

House Bill 1798 is unnecessary, discriminatory, and ultimately harmful to public safety. Our state is home to many residents who contribute to our communities, economy, and workforce but who rely on languages other than English for complex tasks such as written examinations. The ability to safely operate a motor vehicle is not determined by the language in which a person takes a test.

Almost 10% of driver’s license applicants currently use an alternative language option when completing written examinations. This bill would place an artificial and unjust barrier in front of those individuals—many of whom are lawful residents and long-term members of our communities. Rather than improving safety, this bill risks producing the opposite effect. If people are unable to take the licensing exam in a language they understand, some may choose not to apply at all and instead drive without a license. This would make Missouri’s roads less safe, not more.

HB 1798 also sends a troubling message that Missouri is willing to exclude and marginalize residents based on language ability rather than focusing on demonstrated driving competence. Language proficiency in English is not a requirement for being a responsible, knowledgeable, and safe driver. The bill targets a specific group without evidence that current multilingual testing has caused harm or increased risk.

Instead of addressing a real problem, this legislation creates one—by discouraging lawful licensing, increasing unlicensed driving, and fostering discrimination under the guise of public safety. Missouri should be encouraging compliance with licensing laws, not erecting unnecessary obstacles that undermine them.

For these reasons, I urge lawmakers to oppose House Bill 1798 and to support policies that prioritize safety, fairness, and inclusion for all Missouri residents.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sonja Hitchcock



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>STEPHANIE LAKER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 11:34 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**There is no reasonable purpose for denying non-English speaking citizens the ability to obtain a driver's license. There is a reason traffic signs most often do NOT include written language. Many countries allow US citizens to drive in their country with only a US license, and US states allow tourists to rent vehicles without a US license or even without an IDP.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SUSAN GIBSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 5:43 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**HB 1798 is purely hateful and I object. An American should be able to take a test in whatever language they're most comfortable.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SUSANA RAMIREZ</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 3:45 PM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

**I OPPOSE!!! I OPPOSE! I OPOSE!! To all of this RACISM!!!! STOP THE RACISM!! STOP THE RACISM!!!**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SYDNEY FLORES</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 8:10 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**This house bill is racist and unnecessary. One does not need language skills to drive a motor vehicle. Especially in Columbia we have seen a large number of bicycle deaths related to motor vehicle crashes. We should support our community member's autonomy and their pursuit to drive a car.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>TAMELA WARD</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 5:54 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**This bill is racist and irresponsible. Having reading proficiency isn't necessary for driving.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>TAYLOR LIBBERT</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 8:53 AM</b>	
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**As a multilingual, it's still important to have access in any and all language(s) that I feel comfortable speaking.**



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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>TERRI PEYTON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 7:10 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

I am opposed to HB 1798. The basis for this Bill can only be assumed to be racist. HB 1798 would put more unlicensed drivers on our roads. How can that be beneficial to Missourians? I recommend Missouri law makers focus on making life better for all Missourians instead of spending time debating how the State can hurt immigrants and in the process make our State less safe.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>TIMOTHY AMEY</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 5:30 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**H.B 1798 is unnecessary and exclusionary! Attempting to fis a problem that doesn't exist! Please follow the will of the majority of voters and stop this racist bill. Thank you for this opportunity to address the committee.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>TIMOTHY FISCHER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 7:06 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

Chairman and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to be heard today.

My name is Timothy Fischer. I live in Independence, Missouri, and I am writing as an individual community member. I am not representing any organization.

I am writing to oppose House Bill 1798.

I oppose HB1798 because it makes our communities less safe, it is unnecessary, it is economically irresponsible, and it is discriminatory and exclusionary.

First, HB1798 would reduce community safety. By requiring the written driver’s license exam to be given only in English and banning translators, this bill would increase the number of people driving without ever being tested or licensed. When people can access testing and training, they learn the rules of the road and how to drive safely. Blocking access to testing does not make roads safer. It makes them more dangerous.

Second, this bill is completely unnecessary. The level of English fluency required by HB1798 does not match what is actually needed to drive safely. Most traffic signs rely on symbols, colors, and shapes, not written language. Safe driving is about understanding road rules, signs, and behavior, not about English fluency.

Third, this bill is economically irresponsible. Industries like trucking and delivery rely heavily on workers with limited English proficiency. HB1798 would shrink the workforce by making it harder for capable workers to get licensed, which would worsen labor shortages, increase costs, and hurt Missouri’s economy.

Finally, HB1798 is discriminatory and exclusionary. All Missourians need to travel to work, school, the grocery store, and the doctor’s office. Access to a driver’s license is about allowing people to move freely and participate in daily life. People with limited English proficiency deserve the same opportunity to drive legally and safely as everyone else.

This issue is not abstract to me. I have seen how hard people work to support their families, even while learning a new language and adjusting to a new place. Many of them drive every day to jobs that keep our economy running. Making it harder for them to get licensed does not solve any real problem. It only creates new ones, for them and for all of us who share the road.

**For all of these reasons, I strongly oppose HB1798 and urge you to reject it.**

**Thank you for your time and for listening.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>TIMOTHY L DILLON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 6:13 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Tim Dillon, and I am a resident of Missouri. I am submitting this testimony in opposition to House Bill 1798.

HB 1798 would require the written driver’s license exam to be given only in English and would prohibit the use of translators. I respectfully oppose this bill because it would make Missouri less safe, less fair, and less economically strong.

When people are able to take the driver’s test in a language they understand, it means they have completed proper training and testing. That makes our roads safer for everyone. When people are prevented from testing because of language barriers, they will still need to drive but they will do so without licenses, training, or insurance. That puts all of us at risk.

This bill is also unnecessary. Traffic signs and driving rules are largely symbolic and visual. Safe driving depends on skill and awareness, not English fluency.

Missouri’s economy also depends on workers in trucking, agriculture, construction, and service industries, many of whom speak limited English. Preventing them from being licensed would worsen labor shortages and hurt businesses across our state.

Most importantly, HB 1798 would create an unfair system that limits freedom of movement based on language. Everyone in Missouri needs to travel to work, school, grocery stores, and medical appointments. Language should not determine whether someone can participate safely and legally in everyday life.

For these reasons, I urge you to vote NO on HB 1798.

Thank you for your time and for considering my testimony.

Respectfully,  
 Tim Dillon



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>VALERIE ALLENBRAND</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 7:57 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

**Please don't go backwards to archaic times. We need kindness and respect let's help each other not discriminate. There is so much hate and it needs to end! Please be kind this is a horrible idea! When we travel to Italy and we don't understand their language we all need kindness!**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>WINIFRED WRIGHT</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 12:34 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

Committee Chairman and Members,

My name is Winifred Wright and I reside in 64123 of Kansas City, Missouri. I am writing on behalf of myself, my neighbors, and the organization I volunteer with-- Showing Up for Racial Justice, Kansas City Chapter.

I oppose HB 1798 regarding Drivers Examination Requirements. This bill would require the written drivers license exam to be administered only in English and would prohibit the use of translators. Here's why I am against this requirement:

**1. It Reduces Community Safety**

This bill would increase the number of people driving without passing an exam. Unfortunately we live in a very car-centric city and public transit is not extensive or reliable enough for many folks to use in order to get to work, church, the doctors, or run necessary errands. Many folks rely on a personal vehicle to accomplish these tasks.

**2. It is Simply Unnecessary**

The level of language fluency required of this bill is incongruent with the actual language skills required to safely drive a vehicle. You don't need english language skills to understand traffic signs. The vast majority of traffic signs are symbols that are not written or language-dependent.

**3. It is Economically Irresponsible**

Trucking is one of the largest industries that employs people with limited English proficiency. This bill would severely hurt the trucking industry, by exacerbating workforce shortages. You and I rely on trucking for daily necessities and I promise you, you don't want to create a shortage there.

**4. It is Discriminatory and Exclusionary**

Access to driver's licenses and the exam is about recognizing that people with limited English proficiency should still have the ability to move around freely in this country, just like everyone else. Learning new languages takes a long time. How many languages do you speak proficiently? It's a good thing you don't need to rely on that to travel, right? After all, this country was founded on FREEDOM, was it not? Are you against FREEDOM? Surely not!

In summation, I oppose HB 1798 and ask you to as well. Let's focus on issues that really truly matter, rather than waste time on superfluous legislation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.??Sincerely,  
 Winifred Wright

64123



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>ZACK DUNNING</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/12/2026 6:17 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

I urge you to vote NO on HB 1798. Requiring driver exams to be ONLY in English is discriminatory, first and foremost. English is far from the only language spoken or recognized in America (and it's far from America's first language). Everyone, regardless of language, should have the ability to freely travel to work, school, fly cross country, etc.

HB 1798 reduces community safety because this bill would increase the number of people driving without passing the exam. When more people are able to get licenses, that improves road safety for us all.

HB 1798 is also economically irresponsible and would severely impact the trucking industry because it's one of the largest industries that employs people with limited English proficiency.

Please carefully consider the negative repercussions of this bill! Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ZOE THOMPSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 11:21 AM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

People should not be obligated to know a language just to drive a car. This goes beyond the purpose of bodies of legislature and is a clear attempt to keep people from transportation. Please do not pass this punishment disguised as a law. People need to get to work, to doctors, to the grocery store, and this would keep them bound to the limited and inconsistent public transportation available in the state. The U.S. does not have a national language requirement. Please do not do this to people who are just trying to live their lives as normal, productive members of society who need to drive.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 1798</b>		DATE: <b>1/13/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Transportation</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>JOSHUA SHEWMAKER</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-526-2723</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE</b>		TITLE: <b>DEPUTY LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR</b>	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 12:00 AM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			