



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
SACRAMENTO LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

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June 22, 2022

The Honorable Lena Gonzalez
Senate Transportation Committee, Chair
State Capitol, Room 405
Sacramento, CA 95814

**ASSEMBLY BILL 2746 (FRIEDMAN)
SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Gonzalez:

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office is pleased to support Assembly Bill 2746 (Friedman).

AB 2746 lowers the penalties for driving without a license and removes the ability to suspend a person's driver's license for failure to appear in court.

In its 2020 annual report, the Committee on Revision of the Penal Code included a recommendation to eliminate incarceration and reduce fines for certain traffic offenses, including failure to appear. The Committee noted that these offenses are primarily financial in nature, not connected to unsafe driving, and disproportionately affect people of color. These violations can also result in other consequences, including serving as the basis for arrest or vehicle impounding.

The DMV informed the Committee on Revision of the Penal Code that as of January 2021, approximately 600,000 people had their licenses suspended solely for failure to appear in court. Our Office believes that reducing the penalty for driving on a suspended license is appropriate because the existing penalty is disproportionate with the severity of the offense.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact Daniel Felizzatto in my Sacramento Legislative Office at (916) 442-0668.

Very truly yours,

GEORGE GASCÓN
District Attorney

cc: Assembly Member Friedman