

# STALLED

How Alabama's Destructive Practice of Suspending Driver's Licenses for Unpaid Traffic Debt Hurts People & Slows Economic Progress



**Across Alabama, tens of thousands of people have had their driver's licenses suspended because they are unable to pay for tickets for violations like driving with a busted headlight or an expired tag.** Often, a single unpaid ticket spirals into many, as people who are forced to continue driving – to get to work, get to school, care for their children, and otherwise live life in a state where public transportation is scarce or nonexistent – are ticketed repeatedly for driving with licenses that are suspended or revoked.

**ALABAMA MUST  
STOP WEAPONIZING  
DEBT AGAINST ITS  
RESIDENTS.**

Lacking reliable transportation and the most common form of identification, many struggle to find and keep jobs. Despite the fact that debtors' prison is unlawful, many go to jail because they cannot pay. And people who have previously been locked up after coming to court with less than the total they owed often avoid court altogether, incurring Failure to Appear warrants that set them further behind.