



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## OFFICIAL PRESS RELEASE

### DETROITERS CAN ELIMINATE DRIVER RESPONSIBILITY FEES NOW!

**DETROIT (May 8, 2018)** – Today’s announcement by Mayor Mike Duggan of a special program to end driver responsibility fees for nearly 76,000 Detroiters is indeed welcome news. Nearly 350,000 Michigan residents have been affected by this terrible law which finally will end in October of this year. SB614 allows for the Workforce Development Training Program, which will enable drivers to get their driver’s license back much sooner. This law, coupled with the horrendous high insurance rates imposed on citizens of Detroit and other communities, diminishes the quality of life, prevents access to jobs and education, and can lead to unnecessary conflicts with law enforcement.

We are pleased that the Michigan Department of Treasury, the Secretary of State, the Michigan Works Association, along with community activists and legislators from around the state see the wisdom and urgent necessity to lift this socio-economic burden. Ending driver responsibility fees will also mean Detroiters will have opportunities for job-readiness as well as access to the various jobs available throughout the city of Detroit and this region. We urge everyone who is a victim of these very repressive fees to complete the 10 hours of workforce training as a part of this process. Individuals may complete the required workforce training, either online ([www.detroitatwork.com/df](http://www.detroitatwork.com/df)) or visit a scheduled event sponsored by the City of Detroit at various locations around the city.

The initiative to end driver responsibility fees early is long overdue. Yet, we are also very anxious to see an end to the oppressive, unwarranted, ill-advised insurance rates that daily cripple the people in the city of Detroit. These rates punish the citizens of Detroit for no other reason than where they live as opposed to any traffic violation they may have committed. Let’s get this done also. The issues that confront our community are like a giant elephant. However, even elephants fall, one bite at a time. This is an important bite taken out of a giant elephant.

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