

Testimony

To: Chairperson Proehl & Members of the House Transportation Committee
From: Jessica Ross, Manager of Driver Solutions
Division of Vehicles/ Department of Revenue
Date: January 28, 2014
RE: Testimony on House Bill HB2092
Medical Review Syncope for Driver Licensing

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 2092.

The Division of Vehicles is a **proponent**.

The Division of Vehicles is proposing amending K.S.A. 8-247(6) regarding driving privileges for persons with seizure disorders to include blackouts and syncope events in the definition of seizure disorders.

House Bill 2092 expands the definition of seizure disorder to include blackouts and syncope events and also establishes a requirement for the licensee to notify the division in writing within 10 days of a seizure, blackout, or syncope event. Any of these events or loss of consciousness shall result in a six month revocation of driving privileges.

The Kansas Medical Advisory Board rulings for blackouts and syncope events require the same six month revocation as for seizure disorders. As the statute currently does not reflect "blackouts" and "syncope events" within the definition, this creates confusion and the driver may request an Administrative Hearing to dispute the event type. At the conclusion of the Hearing, the findings are submitted to the Medical/Vision Unit within the Division of Vehicles. The specifics of the case are examined and compared to the Kansas Medical Advisory Board rulings on file. In the case of blackouts, syncope events or seizures, the revocation is sustained. By amending the statute to include blackouts and syncope events, the Administrative Hearing process may not be necessary as the statute will clearly state the requirements.

Thank you, I will stand for questions.

Syncope: Syncope is temporary loss of consciousness and posture, described as "fainting" or "passing out"