

Subject Loss of consciousness or voluntary control rulemaking

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Date March 20, 2025

Summary

This bill directs the Department of Public Safety to revise administrative rules that govern physician's statements on a driver's ability to safely operate a vehicle following an episode of loss consciousness or voluntary control, to terminate mandated physician's statements following five- or ten-year periods in some situations.

In the current administrative rules, drivers are required to report to the department on episodes of loss consciousness or voluntary control. The reporting includes a physician's statement on the person's ability to drive safely and whether cancellation of driving privileges is recommended. Reporting is required over various frequency periods, including a physician's statement every four years if the person has not experienced an episode for at least four years.

Under the bill, revision to the rules is directed so that a physician's statement would no longer be mandated if the physician indicates that ongoing medical review is not necessary and:

- 1) the person has only had a single episode, has not had the episode over the last five years, and does not have antiseizure medication; or
- 2) the person has a medical history of epilepsy or seizures, has not had an episode over the last ten years, and does not have antiseizure medication.

In paragraph (b), the department is authorized to use the good cause exemption to rulemaking (which removes some of the procedural steps required in regular rulemaking).