



HOUSE BILL 653: Report/Car Accident Caused by Seizure or Coma.

2017-2018 General Assembly

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| Committee: | House Judiciary III | Date: | April 26, 2017 |
| Introduced by: | Reps. Dobson, Dollar, Torbett | Prepared by: | Kristen L. Harris |
| Analysis of: | Third Edition | | Committee Co-Counsel |

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 653 would make the following changes to the law regarding motor vehicle accident reports:*

- *If the accident was the result of a driver suffering a seizure or hypoglycemic incident, that information would have to be included in the report.*
- *If the Division receives a report that an accident was caused by a driver suffering a seizure or hypoglycemic incident, the Division would be required to conduct a medical evaluation of the driver.*
- *If the medical evaluation triggered by the report results in a determination that the medical condition affects the driver's ability to safely operate a motor vehicle, the Division would be required to cancel the driver's license.*

CURRENT LAW: G.S. 20-166.1 requires law enforcement to investigate reportable accidents and make a written report to be forwarded to the Division of Motor Vehicles.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 653 would require that, if a reportable accident was caused by a driver as a result of the driver suffering a seizure or a hypoglycemic incident, that information must be included in the report. Upon receiving the report, the Division would be required to evaluate whether the medical condition affects the driver's ability to safely operate a vehicle. If the Division determines that it does affect the driver's ability to safely operate a vehicle, the Division would be required to cancel the driver's license. If the license is cancelled, the driver would be able to appeal the decision or seek issuance of a new restricted or unrestricted license. The restriction or cancellation should be stayed during the appeal process unless the Division determines that the stay would pose an imminent risk of harm.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The act would become effective October 1, 2017, and would apply to accidents occurring on or after that date.

* Staff attorney Wendy Graf Ray substantially contributed to this summary.

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