Brief*

HB 2058 would allow the driver of a motorcycle or the rider of a bicycle to proceed through a steady red signal, subject to other traffic rules governing right of way, if the red light has failed to change to green within a reasonable period of time because the signal has malfunctioned or has failed to detect the vehicle. The driver or rider must yield the right-of-way to any vehicle in the intersection or approaching so as to constitute an immediate hazard, to any pedestrian lawfully within an adjacent crosswalk, and to any other traffic lawfully using the intersection.

Background

The bill was requested by American Bikers Aimed Toward Education (ABATE) of Kansas, and six ABATE representatives provided testimony supporting the bill. A representative of United Transportation Union of Kansas presented testimony that was neutral but expressed concerns. A representative of the Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police and the Kansas Peace Officers Association submitted testimony opposing the bill.

The House Committee on Transportation amended the bill to allow bicycle riders as well as motorcycle drivers to proceed, to add language specifying that the driver of the motorcycle or the rider of the bicycle shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian and to any vehicle in the intersection or

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at http://www.kslegislature.org
approaching so as to constitute an immediate hazard, and to make a technical correction.

The fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget states the bill would have no effect on state budgets and was not expected to have an effect on any local budget.