

1 AN ACT relating to limited commercial driver's licenses and declaring an  
2 emergency.

3 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

4 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 281A IS CREATED TO  
5 READ AS FOLLOWS:

6 *In accordance with 49 C.F.R. sec. 383.3(f)(3)(ii), as it existed on the effective date of*  
7 *this section of this Act, regarding exemptions for restricted CDLs for certain drivers in*  
8 *farm-related service industries, the cabinet shall promulgate emergency and ordinary*  
9 *administrative regulations in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A to extend the*  
10 *allowable time length of a limited CDL to the maximum length allowed under 49 C.F.R*  
11 *sec. 383.3(f)(3)(ii), as it existed on the effective date of this section of this Act.*

12 ➔SECTION 2. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 186 IS CREATED TO  
13 READ AS FOLLOWS:

14 *(1) As used in this section, "local official" means a circuit clerk, county clerk, county*  
15 *sheriff, or county judge/executive.*

16 *(2) In any county where at least one (1) permanent regional licensing office is not*  
17 *located, the Transportation Cabinet shall expand the availability of driver*  
18 *licensing services by establishing a system in which a local official in the county*  
19 *may issue renewal and duplicate operator's licenses and personal identification*  
20 *cards through a mutual agreement between that local official and the*  
21 *Transportation Cabinet.*

22 *(3) In a county in which a local official issues renewal and duplicate operator's*  
23 *licenses and personal identification cards under this section, the Transportation*  
24 *Cabinet shall purchase and install all necessary equipment and hardware.*

25 *(4) (a) Except as provided in paragraph (d) of this subsection, a local official may*  
26 *issue renewal and duplicate operator's licenses and personal identification*  
27 *cards only to residents of that county.*

- 1        (b) In a county in which renewal and duplicate operator's licenses and personal  
2        identification cards are issued under this section, a local official may enter  
3        into an interlocal agreement in accordance with KRS 65.210 to 65.300 to  
4        share equipment, personnel, and facilities with other counties for the  
5        purpose of issuing renewal and duplicate operator's licenses and personal  
6        identification cards.
- 7        (c) In a county where no local official chooses to issue renewal and duplicate  
8        operator's licenses and personal identification cards, the county  
9        judge/executive of that county may enter into an interlocal agreement with  
10       another county.
- 11       (d) If a local official enters into an interlocal agreement with the county  
12       judge/executive of another county under paragraph (c) of this subsection,  
13       the local official may issue renewal and duplicate operator's licenses and  
14       personal identification cards to residents of that county under this section.
- 15       (5) In addition to the fees set forth in Section 3 of this Act, a local official may  
16       charge and retain a convenience fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25) for each renewal  
17       or duplicate operator's license or personal identification card issued under this  
18       section.
- 19       (6) A local official issuing documents under this section shall:
- 20       (a) Issue only renewal and duplicate versions of operator's licenses and  
21       personal identification cards; and
- 22       (b) Not issue initial operator's licenses or personal identification cards,  
23       commercial driver's licenses, or travel IDs.
- 24       (7) By October 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, the Transportation Cabinet shall  
25       report to the Legislative Research Commission for referral to the Interim Joint  
26       Committee on Transportation on the number of renewal and duplicate operator's  
27       licenses and personal identification cards issued in each county under this

section and information regarding the effect on wait times at regional licensing offices.

➔ Section 3. KRS 186.531 is amended to read as follows:

(1) As used in this section:

- (a) "GF" means the general fund;
- (b) "IP" means instruction permit;
- (c) "License fund" or "LF" means the KYTC photo license account created in KRS 174.056;
- (d) "MC" means motorcycle;
- (e) "MC fund" or "MCF" means the motorcycle safety education program fund established in KRS 176.5065;
- (f) "OL" means operator's license; and
- (g) "PIDC" means personal identification card.

(2) The fees imposed for voluntary travel ID operator's licenses, instruction permits, and personal identification cards shall be as follows. The fees received shall be distributed as shown in the table. The fees shown, unless otherwise noted, are for an eight (8) year period:

Card Type	Fee	LF	GF	MCF
OL (initial/renewal)	\$48	\$48	\$0	\$0
OL (Under 21) (Up to 4 years)	\$18	\$18	\$0	\$0
Any OL, MC, or combination (duplicate/corrected)	\$15	\$13.25	\$1.75	\$0
Motor vehicle IP (3 years)	\$18	\$16	\$2	\$0
Motorcycle IP (1 year)	\$18	\$13	\$1	\$4
Motorcycle OL (initial/renewal)	\$48	\$38	\$0	\$10
Combination vehicle/MC OL (initial/renewal)	\$58	\$48	\$0	\$10

1	PIDC (initial/renewal)	\$28	\$25	\$3	\$0
2	PIDC (duplicate/corrected)	\$15	\$13.50	\$1.50	\$0

3 (3) Except as provided in subsection ~~(9)~~~~(10)~~ of this section, the fees imposed for  
 4 standard operator's licenses, instruction permits, and personal identification cards  
 5 shall be as follows and, unless otherwise noted, are for an eight (8) year period:

6	Card Type	Fee	LF	GF	MCF
7	OL (initial/renewal)	\$43	\$43	\$0	\$0
8	OL (Under 21) (Up to 4 years)	\$15	\$15	\$0	\$0
9	Any OL, MC, or combination				
10	(duplicate/corrected)	\$15	\$13.25	\$1.75	\$0
11	Motor vehicle IP (3 years)	\$15	\$13	\$2	\$0
12	Motorcycle IP (1 year)	\$15	\$10	\$1	\$4
13	Motorcycle OL (initial/renewal)	\$43	\$33	\$0	\$10
14	Combination vehicle/MC OL				
15	(initial/renewal)	\$53	\$43	\$0	\$10
16	PIDC (initial/renewal)	\$23	\$20	\$3	\$0
17	PIDC (duplicate/corrected)	\$15	\$13.50	\$1.50	\$0
18	PIDC (no fixed address) under				
19	KRS 186.4122(5)/186.4123(5)				
20	(initial, duplicate, or corrected)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

21 ~~(4) [The fee for a four (4) year original or renewal license issued pursuant to KRS~~  
 22 ~~186.4101 shall be fifty percent (50%) of the amount shown in subsections (2) and~~  
 23 ~~(3) of this section. The distribution of fees shown in subsections (2) and (3) of this~~  
 24 ~~section shall also be reduced by fifty percent (50%) for licenses that are issued for~~  
 25 ~~four (4) years.~~

26 ~~(5)~~ Any fee for any identity document applied for using alternative technology under  
 27 KRS 186.410 and 186.4122 shall be distributed in the same manner as a document

1 applied for in person with the cabinet.

2 ~~(5)~~~~(6)~~ (a) An applicant for an original or renewal operator's license, permit,  
3 commercial driver's license, motorcycle operator's license, or personal  
4 identification card shall be requested by the cabinet to make a donation to  
5 promote an organ donor program.

6 (b) The donation under this subsection shall be added to the regular fee for an  
7 original or renewal motor vehicle operator's license, permit, commercial  
8 driver's license, motorcycle operator's license, or personal identification card.  
9 One (1) donation may be made per issuance or renewal of a license or any  
10 combination thereof.

11 (c) The fee shall be paid to the cabinet and shall be forwarded by the cabinet on a  
12 monthly basis to the Kentucky Circuit Court Clerks' Trust for Life, and such  
13 moneys are hereby appropriated to be used exclusively for the purpose of  
14 promoting an organ donor program. A donation under this subsection shall be  
15 voluntary and may be refused by the applicant at the time of issuance or  
16 renewal.

17 ~~(6)~~~~(7)~~ In addition to the fees outlined in this section, the following individuals, upon  
18 application for an initial or renewal operator's license, instruction permit, or  
19 personal identification card, shall pay an additional application fee of thirty dollars  
20 (\$30), which shall be deposited in the photo license account:

21 (a) An applicant who is not a United States citizen or permanent resident and who  
22 applies under KRS 186.4121 or 186.4123; or

23 (b) An applicant who is applying for a instruction permit, operator's license, or  
24 personal identification card without a photo under KRS 186.4102(9).

25 ~~(7)~~~~(8)~~ (a) Except for individuals exempted under paragraph (c) of this subsection,  
26 an applicant for relicensing after revocation or suspension shall pay a  
27 reinstatement fee of forty dollars (\$40).

1 (b) The reinstatement fee under this subsection shall be distributed by the State  
2 Treasurer as follows:

- 3 1. Thirty-five dollars (\$35) shall be deposited into the photo license  
4 account; and
- 5 2. Five dollars (\$5) shall be deposited into a trust and agency fund to be  
6 used in defraying the costs and expenses of administering a driver  
7 improvement program for problem drivers.

8 (c) This subsection shall not apply to:

- 9 1. Any person whose license was suspended for failure to meet the  
10 conditions set out in KRS 186.411 when, within one (1) year of  
11 suspension, the driving privileges of the individual are reinstated; or
- 12 2. A student who has had his or her license revoked pursuant to KRS  
13 159.051.

14 ~~(8)~~~~(9)~~ As payment for any fee identified in this section, the cabinet:

- 15 (a) Shall accept cash and personal checks;
- 16 (b) May accept other methods of payment in accordance with KRS 45.345; and
- 17 (c) May enter into billing agreements with homeless shelters, health care  
18 facilities, or social service agencies that serve individuals without an  
19 established and fixed nighttime residence of regular return.

20 ~~(9)~~~~(10)~~ There shall be no fee assessed **at the regional licensing office** for the initial,  
21 renewal, or duplicate standard personal identification card to an individual, if the  
22 individual:

- 23 (a) Does not possess a valid operator's license or a commercial driver's license;  
24 and
- 25 (b) Is at least eighteen (18) years of age on or before the next regular election.

26 **(10) For any renewal or duplicate operator's license or personal identification card**  
27 **issued by a local official under Section 2 of this Act, the local official may charge**

1 *the convenience fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25) as allowed in that section, to be*  
 2 *retained by the local official.*

3 → Section 4. KRS 186.410 is amended to read as follows:

- 4 (1) Except as provided in subsection (6) of this section, every person not exempted by  
 5 KRS 186.420 and 186.430 shall, before operating a motor vehicle, motorcycle, or  
 6 moped upon a highway, secure an operator's license as provided in this chapter.
- 7 (2) Except as provided in KRS 186.4121, all original, renewal, and duplicate personal  
 8 identification cards and licenses for the operation of motor vehicles or motorcycles  
 9 shall be applied for with the Transportation Cabinet, or through alternative  
 10 technology, and issued by the Transportation Cabinet. ~~Subject to the provisions of~~  
 11 ~~KRS 186.4101,~~ Applications for renewal licenses and personal identification cards  
 12 shall be made every eight (8) years within the birth month of the applicant. A  
 13 license shall not be issued until the application has been certified by the cabinet and  
 14 the applicant has, if required under KRS 186.635, successfully completed the  
 15 examinations required under KRS 186.480.
- 16 (3) All personal identification cards shall be issued under the provisions of KRS  
 17 186.4102, 186.4122, and 186.4123.
- 18 (4) A person under the age of eighteen (18) years who applies for an instruction permit  
 19 shall, at any time between the age of fifteen (15) years and before the person's  
 20 eighteenth birthday, enroll in one (1) of the following driver training programs:
- 21 (a) A driver's education course administered by a school district;
- 22 (b) A driver training school licensed pursuant to KRS Chapter 332 which offers a  
 23 course meeting or exceeding the minimum standards established by the  
 24 Transportation Cabinet; or
- 25 (c) State traffic school. The person may seek to enroll in state traffic school  
 26 before the person's eighteenth birthday. Persons enrolling in state traffic  
 27 school pursuant to this paragraph shall not be required to pay a fee.

- 1 (5) Any applicant for any initial or renewal instruction permit, operator's license, or  
 2 personal identification card under KRS 186.400 to 186.640 may apply for either:
- 3 (a) A voluntary travel ID document; or  
 4 (b) A standard document that does not meet standards for federal identification  
 5 purposes.
- 6 (6) When an automated driving system as defined in KRS 186.760 is installed on a  
 7 motor vehicle and is engaged, and the motor vehicle is operating as a fully  
 8 autonomous vehicle as defined in KRS 186.760, the:
- 9 (a) Owner of the motor vehicle is considered the operator of the fully autonomous  
 10 vehicle and shall comply with applicable traffic or motor vehicle laws,  
 11 regardless of whether the owner is physically present in the vehicle while the  
 12 vehicle is operating; and
- 13 (b) Automated driving system is considered to be licensed to operate the vehicle  
 14 and a licensed human operator is not required to operate the motor vehicle.
- 15 → Section 5. KRS 186.535 is amended to read as follows:
- 16 (1) From the portion of the fee for each eight (8) year original or renewal operator's  
 17 license which is assigned to the photo license account under KRS 186.531:~~;~~
- 18 (a) Two dollars (\$2) shall be credited to a special account within the road fund,  
 19 and shall be used exclusively by the Transportation Cabinet for the purpose of  
 20 expanding the state driver education program;~~;~~ and
- 21 (b) Two dollars (\$2) shall be paid to the fiscal court of the county where the  
 22 operator's~~driver's~~ license holder resides,~~is issued~~ to be used by the fiscal  
 23 court for county road purposes.~~[The distribution of fees under this subsection~~  
 24 ~~shall be reduced by fifty percent (50%) for licenses issued for a four (4) year~~  
 25 ~~term in accordance with KRS 186.4101.]~~
- 26 (2) From the fee for each annual registration of a motorcycle pursuant to KRS 186.050,  
 27 four dollars (\$4) shall be credited to the motorcycle safety education program fund

1 pursuant to KRS 176.5065 and shall be used exclusively for the purposes outlined  
2 in KRS 176.5061 to 176.5069.

3 → Section 6. KRS 186.579 is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) The Transportation Cabinet shall issue, to an applicant who successfully passes the  
5 operator's license examination outlined in KRS 186.578(4), an operator's license  
6 with the following restrictions:

7 (a) Required use of a bioptic telescopic device;

8 (b) Restricted to daytime driving upon the recommendation of a vision specialist  
9 or upon failure of a nighttime examination administered under KRS 186.578;  
10 and

11 (c) Restricted to vehicles with left and right outside mirrors.

12 (2) A restriction to daytime driving in accordance with subsection (1) of this section  
13 shall be removed if the applicant or licensed driver:

14 (a) Obtains a recommendation from a vision specialist;

15 (b) Successfully completes an evaluation by the Office of Vocational  
16 Rehabilitation's bioptic driving program and training specifically designed for  
17 night driving from a certified driver training program; and

18 (c) Passes a comprehensive night driving examination.

19 (3) (a) Subject to the requirements of paragraph (b) of this subsection, an operator's  
20 license issued under KRS 186.578 and 186.579 shall be valid for ~~four (4)~~  
21 ~~years or (8) years[ at the discretion of the applicant as outlined in KRS~~  
22 ~~186.4101].~~

23 (b) The holder of a license issued in accordance with this section and KRS  
24 186.578 shall submit the results of a comprehensive visual examination to  
25 Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation each year before the last day of  
26 the birth month of the license holder. An operator's license shall be subject to  
27 suspension if the license holder does not submit results of the comprehensive

1 visual examination required under this paragraph.

2 (c) If the vision specialist completing the examination required under paragraph  
3 (b) of this subsection certifies that the conditions causing the visual  
4 impairment are stable, then the license shall remain valid. If the conditions  
5 causing the visual impairment are unstable or deteriorating, the license holder  
6 may be required to undergo additional testing as required by the department  
7 and may have his or her operator's license suspended if he or she cannot  
8 successfully pass the tests.

9 ➔Section 7. The following KRS section is repealed:

10 186.4101 Renewal of license -- Reconciliation of four-year and eight-year renewal  
11 periods.

12 ➔Section 8. Sections 2 to 7 of this Act take effect July 1, 2027.