

CHAPTER 91**(SCR 98)**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION directing a study on the economic and health impacts of bicycle and pedestrian activity programs.

WHEREAS, the National Center for Disease Control reports that sixty-three (63) percent of Kentucky adults are obese or overweight and that thirty-five (35) percent of our low-income children are overweight or at risk of overweight, creating an obesity crisis which jeopardizes Kentucky's public health and economic future; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky's leaders, in partnership with both the public and private sectors, are implementing various programs to address the obesity crisis, including Kentucky's Nutrition and Physical Activity State Action Plan, which includes recommendations for increasing the number of safe and accessible bicycle and pedestrian facilities in Kentucky's workplaces, schools and communities; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky's traffic safety risks grow as the numbers of bicyclists and pedestrians increase, and Kentucky's Transportation Center, in 2004, reported that motorists in Kentucky had nine hundred six (906) pedestrian collisions, with fifty (50) of these resulting in fatalities, and also reported four hundred fifty-two (452) collisions involving bicyclists and six were fatalities; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky's economic development and tourism opportunities for bicycle events exist statewide from Ashland to Paducah, exemplified by the two day Louisville to Bardstown bicycle event known as My Old Kentucky Home Bike Tour, enjoyed by some thirteen hundred (1,300) cyclists annually and which was named by *Bicycling Magazine* as the one of the top fifty (50) rides in the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the House of Representatives concurring therein:

Section 1. The Legislative Research Commission is directed to conduct a study of the economic and public health impacts of bicycling and pedestrian transportation activities in Kentucky. The study's purpose is to examine options for improving Kentucky's tourism and economic opportunities related to safe and accessible bicycling and pedestrian activity along with related options for addressing Kentucky's obesity crisis. The study shall examine, at a minimum, the following topics and should result in a report which addresses their status:

(1) An inventory and analysis of state and local bicycle events, including estimates of economic impact and their tourism promotion activities and programs and options for improving bicycling event-related tourism.

(2) An analysis of public and private sector programs which improve opportunities for physical exercise through bicycling and walking, focusing on model programs which educate Kentuckians to achieve healthy lifestyles. The study should review those model programs which are conducted at minimal cost and which have positive economic impact on communities.

(3) A review, examination, and analysis of Kentucky's bicycle safety and accidents, reporting trends and reviewing options for increasing public safety.

Section 2. In conducting research and preparing the report, input shall be sought from appropriate state and local agencies and organizations, such as Kentucky's Health Services, Transportation, and Commerce Cabinets, local and regional planning and public health agencies, local governments, local and statewide health, hiking, bicycle, tourism and related groups and organizations involved in these issues. The report shall be finalized no later than October 1, 2006 and shall be presented to the Legislative Research Commission.

Section 3. Provisions of this resolution to the contrary notwithstanding, the Legislative Research Commission shall have the authority to alternatively assign the issues identified herein to an interim joint committee or subcommittee thereof, and to designate a study completion date.

Approved March 30, 2006