

**186.032 Voluntary inclusion of information that an owner, lesser, or operator of a motor vehicle is deaf or hard of hearing or has a communication disorder in Kentucky vehicle registration system database -- Deaf or hard of hearing protection trust fund -- Notice of availability of database designation.**

- (1) As used in this section, "communication disorder" means a health condition or disability that may impede effective communication with a peace officer.
- (2) The owner or lessee of a motor vehicle may inform the county clerk that he or she, or someone who may be operating the vehicle, is deaf or hard of hearing and request that information be included in the Kentucky vehicle registration system database to assist law enforcement in identifying the operator of the vehicle as possibly being deaf or hard of hearing.
- (3) The owner or lessee of a motor vehicle may inform the county clerk that he or she, or someone who may be operating the vehicle, has a communication disorder and request that information be included in the Kentucky vehicle registration system database to assist law enforcement in identifying the operator of the vehicle as possibly having a communication disorder.
- (4)
  - (a) The deaf or hard of hearing protection trust fund is created as a separate trust fund in the State Treasury. The trust fund shall consist of any proceeds from gifts, grants, contributions, appropriations, or other moneys made available for the purposes of the trust fund.
  - (b) The fund shall be administered by the Kentucky Commission on the Deaf or Hard of Hearing.
  - (c) Notwithstanding KRS 45.229, trust fund amounts not expended at the close of a fiscal year shall not lapse but shall be carried forward to the next fiscal year.
  - (d) Any interest earnings of the trust fund shall become part of the trust fund and shall not lapse.
  - (e) Trust fund moneys deposited in this fund shall only be used to:
    1. Reimburse the Transportation Cabinet for the cost of including information that someone is deaf or hard of hearing or has a communication disorder in the Kentucky vehicle registration system database;
    2. Support other actions to protect the safety and welfare of persons who are deaf or hard of hearing or have a communication disorder; and
    3. Educate the public, the deaf and hard of hearing community, and the communication disorder community on issues confronting the deaf and hard of hearing and those with communication disorders.
- (5)
  - (a) Every county clerk shall post a permanent notice containing information about the availability of a deaf or hard of hearing or a communication disorder designation in the Kentucky vehicle registration database. The notice shall be printed in bold face type of sufficient point size to be read from a distance of at least three (3) feet. The notice shall be posted in a conspicuous place to ensure that every person who enters the county clerk's office will readily see the notice.

- (b) The Transportation Cabinet shall put information on its Web site about the availability of a deaf or hard of hearing or a communication disorder designation in the Kentucky vehicle registration database.

**Effective:** January 1, 2024

**History:** Amended 2022 Ky. Acts ch. 99, sec. 1, effective January 1, 2024. -- Created 2017 Ky. Acts ch. 57, sec. 1, effective June 29, 2017.