

AN ACT relating to the use of bicycle helmets for persons aged 16 and younger.

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

➔Section 1. KRS 189.287 is amended to read as follows:

The Transportation Cabinet shall promulgate administrative regulations pursuant to KRS Chapter 13A to set forth standards for bicycle equipment and the safe operation of a bicycle. The regulations shall include requirements for **bicycle helmets for children under the age of sixteen (16)**, lights, reflectors, and audible warning devices. Bicycles and riders which comply with the regulations promulgated under this section are exempt from municipal and other local government regulations concerning safety equipment but not method of operation. In promulgating the administrative regulations, the Transportation Cabinet shall permit use of lightweight modern technological substitutes for lights, reflectors, and bells. The purpose of this section is to **develop bicycle safety requirements in order to protect the children of the Commonwealth, as well as to** encourage bicycling and bicycle touring in this state by enabling bicycle riders to make use of modern technology to make their presence known to other users of the road. The Transportation Cabinet may consult with organizations of bicycle riders to aid it in the search for bicycle safety equipment and rules convenient for long distance bicycle riders.