

1 AN ACT relating to vehicle head lamps.

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

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 189.040 is amended to read as follows:

- 4 (1) Every motor vehicle, other than a motorcycle or moped~~[motor-driven cycle]~~, shall
5 be equipped with at least two (2) headlamps~~[head lamps]~~ with at least one (1) on
6 each side of the front of the motor vehicle, which headlamps~~[head lamps]~~ shall
7 comply with the requirements and limitations set forth in this section.
- 8 (2) Every motorcycle and~~[,]~~ moped~~[, and every motor-driven cycle]~~ shall be equipped
9 with at least one (1) and not more than two (2) headlamps~~[head lamps]~~ which shall
10 comply with the requirements and limitations of this section.
- 11 (3) Except as hereinafter provided, the headlamps~~[head lamps]~~ or the auxiliary driving
12 lamps or the auxiliary passing lamp or combinations thereof on motor vehicles,
13 other than a motorcycle or moped ~~[motor-driven cycle,]~~ shall be so arranged that the
14 driver may control the selection between distribution of light projected to different
15 elevations, subject to the following requirements and limitations:
- 16 (a) There shall be an uppermost distribution of light, or composite beam, so
17 aimed and of such intensity as to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of
18 at least three hundred fifty (350) feet ahead for all conditions of loading;
- 19 (b) There shall be a lowermost distribution of light, or composite beam, so aimed
20 and of sufficient intensity to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at
21 least one hundred (100) feet ahead; and on a straight level road under any
22 condition of loading none of the high-intensity portion of the beam shall be
23 directed to strike the eyes of an approaching driver; and
- 24 (c) Every new motor vehicle, other than a motorcycle or moped~~[motor-driven~~
25 ~~cycle]~~, registered in this state after January 1, 1956, which has multiple-beam
26 road-lighting equipment shall be equipped with a beam indicator, which shall
27 be lighted whenever the uppermost distribution of light from the

1 headlamps~~[head lamps]~~ is in use, and shall not otherwise be lighted. Said
2 indicator shall be so designed and located that when lighted it will be readily
3 visible without glare to the driver of the vehicle so equipped.

4 (4) Whenever a motor vehicle is being operated on a roadway or shoulder adjacent
5 thereto during the times specified in KRS 189.030, the driver shall use a distribution
6 of light or composite beam directed high enough and of sufficient intensity to reveal
7 persons and vehicles at a safe distance in advance of the vehicle, subject to the
8 requirements and limitations hereinafter set forth.

9 (5) Whenever a driver of a vehicle approaches an oncoming vehicle within five
10 hundred (500) feet, the~~[such]~~ driver shall use a distribution of light or composite
11 beam, so aimed that the glaring rays are not projected into the eyes of the oncoming
12 driver. The lowermost distribution of light or composite beam specified in
13 paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of this section shall be deemed to avoid glare at all
14 times, regardless of road contour and loading.

15 (6) Whenever the driver of a vehicle follows another vehicle within three hundred (300)
16 feet to the rear, except when engaged in the act of overtaking and passing, the~~[such]~~
17 driver shall use a distribution of light other than the uppermost distribution of
18 light specified in paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of this section.

19 (7) Headlamps arranged to provide a single distribution of light not supplemented by
20 auxiliary driving lights shall be permitted on motor vehicles manufactured and sold
21 prior to May 30, 1939, in lieu of multiple-beam road-lighting equipment, if the
22 single distribution of light complies with the following requirements and
23 limitations:

24 (a) The headlamps shall be so aimed that when the vehicle is not loaded none of
25 the high intensity portion of the light shall, at a distance of twenty-five (25)
26 feet ahead, project higher than a level of five (5) inches below the level of the
27 center of the light from which it comes, and in no case higher than forty-two

- 1 (42) inches above the level on which the vehicle stands, at a distance of
2 seventy-five (75) feet ahead;
- 3 (b) The intensity shall be sufficient to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of
4 at least two hundred (200) feet;
- 5 (c) Whenever the operator of a motor vehicle approaches an oncoming vehicle
6 within five hundred (500) feet, he shall use a distribution of light or composite
7 beam so aimed that the glaring rays are not projected into the eyes of the
8 oncoming driver. In no case shall the high intensity portion which is projected
9 to the left of the prolongation of the extreme left side of the vehicle be aimed
10 higher than the center of the lamp from which it comes at a distance of
11 twenty-five (25) feet ahead, and in no case higher than a level of forty-two
12 (42) inches above the level upon which the vehicle stands at a distance of
13 seventy-five (75) feet ahead.
- 14 (8) Flashing lights are prohibited on all motor vehicles except as a means for indicating
15 a right or left turn or for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles of
16 the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring the exercise of unusual care in
17 approaching, overtaking or passing.
- 18 (9) The height of the headlamps, from the center of the lamp to level ground when the
19 vehicle is unloaded, shall be between twenty-four (24) and fifty-four (54) inches.
- 20 **(10) Headlamps required under this section shall only emit white light. Halogen**
21 **headlamps may have a slight yellow or amber tint. Nonhalogen headlamps may**
22 **emit a slight blue tint, if the headlamps were installed by the vehicle**
23 **manufacturer as original equipment in the motor vehicle, motorcycle, or moped**
24 **or the headlamps meet the requirements of subsection (11) of this section.**
- 25 **(11) A motor vehicle, motorcycle, or moped shall only be equipped with headlamps**
26 **that meet United States Department of Transportation regulations.**
- 27 **(12) A motor vehicle, motorcycle, or moped shall not be retrofitted with a headlamp**

- 1 that appears to emit a solid color of light other than white.
- 2 (13) A motor vehicle, motorcycle, or moped shall not be retrofitted with a headlamp
- 3 cover or film that changes the light emitted from the headlamp to a color other
- 4 than white.