

1 AN ACT relating to motor vehicles.

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

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 186.032 (Effective January 1, 2024) is amended to read as  
4 follows:

5 (1) As used in this section, "communication disorder" means a health condition or  
6 disability that may impede effective communication with a peace officer,

7 ***including:***

8 ***(a) A communication impediment;***

9 ***(b) Blindness or a visual impairment;***

10 ***(c) Autism spectrum disorder;***

11 ***(d) A drug allergy;***

12 ***(e) Alzheimer's disease or dementia;***

13 ***(f) Post-traumatic stress disorder;***

14 ***(g) Traumatic brain injury;***

15 ***(h) Schizophrenia;***

16 ***(i) Epilepsy;***

17 ***(j) A developmental disability;***

18 ***(k) Down syndrome;***

19 ***(l) Diabetes; or***

20 ***(m) A heart condition.***

21 ***The Transportation Cabinet may identify other communication disorders through***  
22 ***administrative regulations promulgated in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A.***

23 (2) The owner or lessee of a motor vehicle may inform the county clerk that he or she,  
24 ~~for~~ someone who may be operating the vehicle, ***or someone who is a regular***  
25 ***passenger in the vehicle,*** is deaf or hard of hearing and request that information be  
26 included in the Kentucky vehicle registration system database to assist law  
27 enforcement in identifying the operator ***or a regular passenger*** of the vehicle as

1 possibly being deaf or hard of hearing.

2 (3) The owner or lessee of a motor vehicle may inform the county clerk that he or she,  
3 ~~for~~ someone who may be operating the vehicle, or someone who is a regular  
4 passenger in the vehicle, has a communication disorder and request that  
5 information be included in the Kentucky vehicle registration system database to  
6 assist law enforcement in identifying the operator or a regular passenger of the  
7 vehicle as possibly having a communication disorder.

8 (4) (a) The deaf or hard of hearing protection trust fund is created as a separate trust  
9 fund in the State Treasury. The trust fund shall consist of any proceeds from  
10 gifts, grants, contributions, appropriations, or other moneys made available  
11 for the purposes of the trust fund.

12 (b) The fund shall be administered by the Kentucky Commission on the Deaf or  
13 Hard of Hearing.

14 (c) Notwithstanding KRS 45.229, trust fund amounts not expended at the close of  
15 a fiscal year shall not lapse but shall be carried forward to the next fiscal year.

16 (d) Any interest earnings of the trust fund shall become part of the trust fund and  
17 shall not lapse.

18 (e) Trust fund moneys deposited in this fund shall only be used to:

19 1. Reimburse the Transportation Cabinet for the cost of including  
20 information that someone is deaf or hard of hearing or has a  
21 communication disorder in the Kentucky vehicle registration system  
22 database;

23 2. Support other actions to protect the safety and welfare of persons who  
24 are deaf or hard of hearing or have a communication disorder; and

25 3. Educate the public, the deaf and hard of hearing community, and the  
26 communication disorder community on issues confronting the deaf and  
27 hard of hearing and those with communication disorders.

- 1 (5) (a) Every county clerk shall post a permanent notice containing information about  
2 the availability of a deaf or hard of hearing or a communication disorder  
3 designation in the Kentucky vehicle registration database. The notice shall be  
4 printed in bold face type of sufficient point size to be read from a distance of  
5 at least three (3) feet. The notice shall be posted in a conspicuous place to  
6 ensure that every person who enters the county clerk's office will readily see  
7 the notice.
- 8 (b) The Transportation Cabinet shall put information on its website~~[Web site]~~  
9 about the availability of a deaf or hard of hearing or a communication disorder  
10 designation in the Kentucky vehicle registration database.