

RESOLUTION

Subject: Requirement of Helmet Usage Amongst the Youth of Kentucky While on a Bicycle or Powered Cycle

Submitted by: Greater Louisville Medical Society

Referred to: Reference Committee

WHEREAS, unintentional injuries are consistently the leading cause of death for children 1-18 years old in the United States, and to address the issue the CDC has researched and advocated for universal helmet laws for children; and

WHEREAS, between 1987 and 1998 it was found that helmets reduced head injuries by 60% and fatality from a head injury by 73% in communities that adapted helmet requirement laws. This was again confirmed by a Cochrane review in 2011 demonstrating a significant reduction in injury rate between 63% and 88% overall; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Kentucky has not followed the trend of almost half of the United States in implementing a statewide helmet law for children; and

WHEREAS, education has been proven to be influential in helmet usage, education in concordance with governmental regulations has shown exponential increase in helmet usage when compared to just education; and

WHEREAS, helmet compliance is at the root of solving the issue, and passage of a helmet requirement law has been associated with the increase of the usage of helmets; and

WHEREAS, it is important to protect the children of Kentucky with the implementation of a law requiring helmets on bicycles and low powered cycles, including electronic scooters and mopeds; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Kentucky Medical Association support helmet regulations to require a helmet to be worn by those 17 years of age and younger, while on a bicycle or low-powered cycles, including, but not limited to: scooters, mopeds, and electronic scooters; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Kentucky Medical Association support universal helmet regulation laws for children for the Commonwealth of Kentucky; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Kentucky Medical Association support and encourage the development of public education campaigns for helmet usage by children.