

1 AN ACT relating to construction of statutes.

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

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 446.080 is amended to read as follows:

4 *The construction of statutes in this state shall be by the following rules, unless the*
5 *construction would be inconsistent with the manifest intent of the General Assembly or*
6 *lead to an absurd or wholly unreasonable conclusion:*

7 (1) *All words and phrases shall be construed according to the common and approved*
8 *usage of language, but technical words and phrases, and other words and*
9 *phrases that have acquired a peculiar and appropriate meaning in the law, shall*
10 *be construed according to that meaning;*~~[statutes of this state shall be liberally~~

11 ~~construed with a view to promote their objects and carry out the intent of the~~
12 ~~legislature, and the rule that statutes in derogation of the common law are to be~~
13 ~~strictly construed shall not apply to the statutes of this state.]~~

14 (2) There shall be no difference in the construction of civil, penal, and criminal
15 statutes;~~[-]~~

16 (3) *The rule that statutes in derogation of the common law are to be strictly*
17 *construed shall not apply to the statutes of this state;*

18 (4) *The provisions of a statute shall be construed as a whole and in a manner that*
19 *renders them compatible and not contradictory;*

20 (5) *It is presumed that the General Assembly, in enacting a statute, intended:*

21 (a) *Compliance with the Constitution of Kentucky and the United States*
22 *Constitution; and*

23 (b) *A just and reasonable result;*

24 (6) *If a statute is ambiguous, a court, in determining the intent of the legislature,*
25 *may consider, among other matters:*

26 (a) *The object sought to be obtained; and*

27 (b) *The statutory context;*

1 (7) When interpreting a statute, a court shall not consider, consult, cite, rely upon, or
2 give any weight to:

3 (a) Any statement from an individual legislator, including any sponsor of the
4 bill that enacted the statute;

5 (b) Any statement made during a committee hearing or debate of the bill on the
6 floor of the Senate or House of Representatives; or

7 (c) A committee report or committee recording; and

8 ~~(8)(3)~~ No statute shall be construed to be retroactive, unless expressly so declared.

9 ~~[(4) All words and phrases shall be construed according to the common and approved~~
10 ~~usage of language, but technical words and phrases, and such others as may have~~
11 ~~acquired a peculiar and appropriate meaning in the law, shall be construed~~
12 ~~according to such meaning.]~~