

CHAPTER 519 (HJR 113)

A JOINT RESOLUTION relating to the recognition of Chief Justice Frederick M. Vinson.

WHEREAS, Kentuckian Abraham Lincoln served as President of the United States, leader of the Executive Branch of the Federal Government, and his service is recognized with a statue in the rotunda of Kentucky's State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, Kentuckian Henry Clay served as Speaker of the House of Representatives, leader of the Legislative Branch of the Federal Government, and his service is recognized with a statue in the rotunda of Kentucky's State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, Kentuckian Fred M. Vinson served as Chief Justice of the United States, leader of the Judicial Branch of the Federal Government, but his service has never been recognized with a statue or bust in Kentucky's State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, Frederick M. Vinson was born January 20, 1890 in Louisa, Kentucky, received his formal education in the public schools of Boyd County and at Centre College, was a veteran of World War I, served as Commonwealth's attorney, was elected to the United States House of Representatives from 1923 to 1938 (except for one two-year period), and served as Judge of the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia, Chief Judge of the Emergency Court of Appeals for Price Control, Director of Economic Stabilization, Federal Loan Administrator, Director of War Mobilization and Reconversion, and Secretary of the Treasury; and

WHEREAS, Frederick M. Vinson was appointed by President Harry S. Truman to be the thirteenth Chief Justice of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Chief Justice Vinson served from 1946 until his untimely death in 1953, after which he was buried in Pine Hill Cemetery in Louisa, Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, Chief Justice Vinson is one of only sixteen people in the history of the United States to hold the office of Chief Justice of the United States, and he rendered distinguished service to his county, district, state, and nation; and

WHEREAS, the year 2003 will mark the fiftieth anniversary of the death of Chief Justice Frederick M. Vinson;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

Section 1. The Kentucky Historical Society, the Division of Historic Properties in the Finance and Administration Cabinet, and the Historic Properties Advisory Commission, in consultation with the Court of Justice and the Kentucky Bar Association, shall plan and implement an appropriate recognition of the service and the fiftieth anniversary of the death of Chief Justice Frederick M. Vinson. The recognition may include the commissioning and placement of an appropriate statue or bust of Chief Justice Vinson in an appropriate position of honor in the State Capitol.

Section 2. The Kentucky Historical Society, the Division of Historic Properties, and the Historic Properties Advisory Commission shall jointly report to the 2002 Session of the General Assembly on the plan for recognition of Chief Justice Vinson, including plans or recommendations relating to the placement of a statue or bust of Frederick M. Vinson in the State Capitol.

Approved April 21, 2000