

CHAPTER 138**(HCR 113)**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION supporting the efforts of the U. S. Enrichment Corporation as it pursues improvements in energy production through technological advances.

WHEREAS, since 1993 when it first entered into a lease agreement to operate the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant and continuing after 1998, when it became a private corporation, the U. S. Enrichment Corporation (USEC) has maintained and improved the vital national service of uranium enrichment conducted at the Paducah facility; and

WHEREAS, USEC has undertaken this task in partnership with the officials of the city of Paducah and McCracken county, and the many highly skilled and specialized employees working at and supporting the plant; and

WHEREAS, the Megatons to Megawatts program of shifting uranium enrichment from nuclear weapons production to nuclear energy generation has placed USEC on a path of improving efficiency through technological advances; and

WHEREAS, USEC will be testing an updated technology of gas centrifuge uranium enrichment in the next few years and continues to invest in a third-generation laser-based enrichment process; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky, as a key energy resource state, has local, state, and federal leaders who are committed to continuing the partnership with USEC as it continues the advancement of uranium enrichment for energy production;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Senate concurring therein:

Section 1. The Commonwealth of Kentucky commits to continuing its long-standing partnership with and supports the U. S. Enrichment Corporation in its efforts to effectively produce nuclear energy resources. To that end, the Commonwealth offers the resources of the state to aid in USEC's development and deployment of the next generation of uranium enrichment technologies. The offered resources may include, for example only, maintenance of the skilled, specialized workforce in Paducah and surrounding counties, the research capabilities of the state's top universities, assistance with debt financing, access to programs administered by the Economic Development Cabinet, and other resources appropriate to the specific technological projects undertaken by USEC.

Approved March 18, 2003