

**CHAPTER 92****(SCR 130)**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION to encourage the documentation of rock fences worthy of preservation and the development of criteria for their protection and preservation.

WHEREAS, the historic rock fences of Kentucky, particularly those in the Bluegrass region, are in danger of loss to road projects, neglect, and pilferage; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky's rock fences are widely recognized as trademarks of the region; and

WHEREAS, rock fences were built by Scots-Irish settlers, Irish immigrants, African-American freedmen, and the Works Progress Administration; and

WHEREAS, rock fence protection is being administered in diverse areas from the West Coast to Tennessee to New England; and

WHEREAS, New Hampshire and Rhode Island require rebuilding historic walls, and California is placing some of its walls on the National Register of Historic Places; and

WHEREAS, Fayette County, Kentucky, having lost 25 percent of the rock fences around its horse farms and family farms between 1967 and 1990, now requires the moving and rebuilding of old rock fences threatened by development; and

WHEREAS, such rock fences are visible reminders of the history of this Commonwealth, marking the bounds of old, historic properties and having served as battle lines during the Civil War; and

WHEREAS, they are expressions of the skill, practicality, and artistry of those early Kentuckians who built beauty into utilitarian structures; and

WHEREAS, the tourism, growth, and development industries routinely promote Central Kentucky by means of literature depicting historic rock fences and scenic landscapes, illustrating the importance of these rural elements to our citizens, our visitors, and to future generations; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the Commonwealth of Kentucky act to preserve its historic heritage before more is lost or irreparably damaged;

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

Section 1. The Kentucky Heritage Council and the Dry Stone Conservancy of Kentucky are hereby strongly encouraged to document rock fences worthy of preservation, to provide training in skills essential to their maintenance, and to develop criteria for their protection and preservation, including standards for moving and rebuilding such fences when other alternatives are not available.

**Approved March 30, 2006**