

**CHAPTER 100****( HJR 45 )**

A JOINT RESOLUTION honoring the memory of a great Kentuckian, Charles Floyd, who was a member of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, and declaring August 20, 2013, as Sergeant Charles Floyd Day in the Commonwealth.

WHEREAS, Charles Floyd was born in Louisville, Kentucky, in approximately 1782, and grew up in Floyd's Station, which is the present-day St. Matthews neighborhood. He would have had a typical frontier childhood, farming and working the land his family owned along Beargrass Creek; and

WHEREAS, on July 18, 1803, William Clark agreed to Meriwether Lewis's invitation to journey to the Pacific and began recruiting men for the expedition; and

WHEREAS, by August 1, 1803, Charles Floyd was one of the first three men selected to be part of what Lewis and Clark called the Corps of Discovery. Charles Floyd received his official enlistment into the United States Army when he became a part of the group that left on their historic journey from the Falls of the Ohio on October 26, 1803; and

WHEREAS, at the young age of 21, Charles Floyd was considered a "young man of much merit" by Captain Meriwether Lewis, who deemed him responsible enough to promote him to the rank of Sergeant on April 3, 1804. Sergeant Charles Floyd served as quartermaster in the Lewis and Clark Expedition, and was one of many members who kept a journal about their travels; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Charles Floyd became ill in July 1804 of what many today believe to be appendicitis, and died on August 20, 1804, in what is present-day Sioux City, Iowa; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Lewis and Clark Expedition honored Sergeant Charles Floyd's service with a burial that included the "honors of war" and William Clark noted in his journal that "this man at all times gave us proofs of his firmness and determined resolve to do service to his country and honor to himself." They buried him along a bluff of the Missouri River and erected a cedar post as monument to their fallen comrade; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Charles Floyd, being one of the famous "Nine Young Men from Kentucky" recruited by Lewis and Clark for their historic journey, was the first American soldier known to have died in the service of his country west of the Mississippi River;

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

➔Section 1. The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky honors the service and sacrifice of a true Kentucky hero, Sergeant Charles Floyd, for his role in the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

➔Section 2. The General Assembly does hereby declare August 20, 2013, as Sergeant Charles Floyd Day in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and encourages citizens to join in the celebration and learn more about Sergeant Charles Floyd, the Lewis and Clark Expedition, and the other Kentuckians who were a part of that historic journey.

**Signed by Governor March 22, 2013.**