

**CHAPTER 53****( SCR 109 )**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION designating *Blood Song: The Story of the Hatfields and the McCoys* as the official play on the Hatfield/McCoy feud in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

WHEREAS, the Hatfields and the McCoys were two families who lived in the Tug River Valley on the border of West Virginia and Kentucky in the middle of the 19th century and who carried on a bitter, violent feud for more than 25 years; and

WHEREAS, the Hatfield and McCoy feud has been reenacted many times over the years through various popular culture mediums, and has maintained a hold on the public's imagination not only because of its inherent tragedy but also because of the colorful Appalachian region where the feud played out; and

WHEREAS, the Hatfield and McCoy Arts Council, in association with the University of Kentucky's Cooperative Extension Office in Pike County and the Artists Collaborative Theater, Inc., commissioned *Blood Song: The Story of the Hatfields and the McCoys*, a stage play written by award-winning playwright Chelsea Marcantel and performed at the Hatfield-McCoy Outdoor Theater in McCarr, Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, the play encompasses not only the feud itself but serves as both an educational and cultural touchpoint that highlights the history and natural beauty of the very location where the feud took place more than 125 years ago; and

WHEREAS, the play also illuminates the profoundly important place community theater plays in the lives of Kentuckians, and through its unflinching drama and its deep look at an important historical moment, it showcases the artistic integrity of its players, the talent of the playwright who adapted the story, and the fierce violence and division that marked the Hatfield and McCoy feud;

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. *Blood Song: The Story of the Hatfields and the McCoys* is hereby designated as the official play on the Hatfield/McCoy feud in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Stephanie Richards, Pike County Extension Agent for Fine Arts, 148 Trivette Drive, Pikeville, Kentucky 41501, for herself and for her distribution to the Artists Collaborative Theater, Inc.; the Hatfield and McCoy Arts Council, Inc.; and the Pike County Tourism, Convention, and Visitors Bureau.

**Signed by Governor March 23, 2015.**