

**CHAPTER 121****( HJR 164 )**

A JOINT RESOLUTION directing the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet, in collaboration with the Buffalo Trace Area Development District, to develop a covered wooden bridges trail.

WHEREAS, Kentucky once was the home to hundreds of covered wooden bridges; and

WHEREAS, currently there are only thirteen covered wooden bridges that remain within the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, covered wooden bridges are a scenic connection to our shared past, and the sounds, sights, and smells of wood predating the dawn of industrialization provide a unique sensory link to an era long ago; and

WHEREAS, all covered wooden bridges in the Commonwealth are designated as state shrines and officially marked by the Kentucky Historical Society; and

WHEREAS, historians, genealogists, travelers, and tourists come from near and far to view, photograph, and experience covered wooden bridges; and

WHEREAS, the popularity of covered wooden bridges called to attention by the bestselling novel "Bridges of Madison County" brought an economic windfall to Madison County, Iowa; and

WHEREAS, it is the considered opinion of tourism officials in the Buffalo Trace Area Development District that the unmatched beauty and historic significance of covered wooden bridges in Bracken, Fleming, Lewis, Mason, and Robertson Counties would bring an even greater number of visitors to the area if the existence and availability of the area's covered wooden bridges were more widely known;

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

➔Section 1. The Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet, in collaboration with officials and representatives of the Buffalo Trace Area Development District, shall develop a covered wooden bridge trail to introduce, locate, and popularize these historic state shrines in an effort to bring greater numbers of visitors to the area.

**Signed by Governor April 13, 2016.**