

A JOINT RESOLUTION designating the new bridge under construction on Interstate 65 over the Ohio River as the "Abraham Lincoln Memorial Bridge."

WHEREAS, Abraham Lincoln was the sixteenth President, who ended American slavery and guided our nation through its most difficult crisis; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln was born in Kentucky and moved to Indiana as a child, growing up in each respective state; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln is claimed by both Kentucky and Indiana and is referenced on each state's interstate welcome signs; and

WHEREAS, the new Interstate 65 bridge goes over the place on the Ohio River where Lincoln had an important experience with slavery, which he later recounted as having "the power of making [him] miserable"; and

WHEREAS, the new Interstate 65 bridge is being constructed directly adjacent to the Lincoln Memorial at Waterfront Park in Louisville, which features artistic interpretation of Lincoln's ties to Kentucky and his contribution to our nation; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky has dozens of historic sites with connections to Abraham Lincoln, including the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park, the Mary Todd Lincoln House, and Lincoln Homestead State Park; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky state government, to preserve and promote the Commonwealth's many ties to Abraham Lincoln, created the Kentucky Lincoln Heritage Trail in 2008, which welcomes more than 400,000 tourists to Kentucky annually and is now administered by a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization known as Kentucky Lincoln Heritage Trail Alliance; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln was a Republican, and John F. Kennedy, for whom the current Interstate 65 bridge directly adjacent to the new bridge is named, was a Democrat; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the life, service, accomplishments, and legacy of this humble man be publicly recognized to further promote Kentucky's history and heritage;

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

➔Section 1. The Transportation Cabinet shall honor the life, service, and accomplishments of the nation's Sixteenth President and native son, Abraham Lincoln, by designating the bridge currently under construction on Interstate 65 over the Ohio River in Louisville as the "Abraham Lincoln Memorial Bridge" and shall, within 30 days of the opening of the bridge to vehicle traffic, erect appropriate signs denoting this designation.