

A JOINT RESOLUTION designating Kentucky Route 522 from Ross Point to Cumberland in Harlan County as the "UMWA President John L. Lewis Memorial Highway."

WHEREAS, John L. Lewis was an American leader of organized labor who served as president of the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) from 1920 to 1960; and

WHEREAS, John L. Lewis, a major player in the history of coal mining, was the driving force behind the founding of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, which established the United Steel Workers of America; and

WHEREAS, John L. Lewis' work to organize the country's industrial workers through the Congress of Industrial Organizations in the 1930s helped raise living standards for millions of American families; and

WHEREAS, John L. Lewis created the UMWA Welfare and Retirement Fund which permanently changed health care delivery in the coal fields of the nation; and

WHEREAS, the UMWA Fund built eight hospitals in Appalachia and established numerous clinics; and

WHEREAS, in 1964, John L. Lewis was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Lyndon Johnson; and

WHEREAS, John L. Lewis remained Chairman of the UMWA Fund until his death in 1969;

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

➔Section 1. The Transportation Cabinet shall designate Kentucky Route 522 from Ross Point to Cumberland in Harlan County as the "UMWA President John L. Lewis Memorial Highway," and shall, within 30 days of the effective date of this Resolution, erect appropriate signs denoting this designation.