

A RESOLUTION recognizing Special Olympics Kentucky upon its 45th anniversary.

WHEREAS, this Honorable Body gives special commendation and congratulations to those athletes in this Commonwealth who go above the everyday expectations of athletic pursuit and achieve something greater; and

WHEREAS, since 1968, Special Olympics has celebrated the skill, courage, sharing, and joy that transcends boundaries of geography, nationality, political philosophy, gender, age, race, and religion to bring athletes from around the world together for the common cause of competition, sportsmanship, and the celebration of the human spirit; and

WHEREAS, more than 2.5 million athletes from 180 countries around the globe compete in more than 30,000 Special Olympics competitions yearly; and

WHEREAS, Special Olympics instills in its competitors not only improved physical fitness but greater self-confidence, a more well-rounded self-image, and friendships with their teammates and competitors that will last a lifetime; and

WHEREAS, for 45 years, Special Olympics Kentucky has fostered relationships with its athletes and coaches and has dedicated itself to the spirit of competition, teamwork, and leadership; and

WHEREAS, Special Olympics Kentucky has more than 7,000 participating athletes, and at the World Summer Games in August 2015 in Los Angeles, California, four athletes along with three coaches will represent this Commonwealth as part of Team USA; and

WHEREAS, the four athletes who will represent Kentucky are Danielle Blakeney, who competes in rhythmic gymnastics; Lee Dockins, who competes artistic gymnastics; Chris Willis, who competes in swimming; and Amanda Browning, who competes in bowling; and

WHEREAS, this body commends these four athletes and grants them best wishes as

they prepare for the 2015 World Summer Games and, in so doing, it congratulates all those Special Olympians in Kentucky who continue to work hard to make themselves, their families, and this Commonwealth proud;

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

➔Section 1. The House of Representatives hereby honors Special Olympics Kentucky upon its 45th anniversary, gives special commendation to all those Special Olympics athletes who are in the chamber on this day, and wishes Special Olympics Kentucky and all those who are associated with the organization the best of luck as they continue to set an example for every citizen and athlete in this Commonwealth.

➔Section 2. When the House of Representatives adjourns this day, it does so in honor of Special Olympics Kentucky.

➔Section 3. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Representative Martha Jane King for delivery.