A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION directing the staff of the Legislative Research Commission to study the effects of moving state employees to a 40-hour work week.

WHEREAS, low state revenues and increasing budgetary demands have restricted our ability to give raises to state employees even though demands on their salaries, such as health insurance costs, rising food prices, and housing costs increase each year; and

WHEREAS, state government needs to work efficiently and effectively to provide the services that the public needs; and

WHEREAS, having employees work 40 hours a week may reduce the need for overtime and produce a cost savings to the state; and

WHEREAS, state employees have not received the full five percent cost-of-living adjustments required by statute since the 2001-2002 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the number of state employees is at its lowest, even though the workload has remained the same; and

WHEREAS, state employees deserve to be fairly compensated for the work and services they provide;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Senate concurring therein:

Section 1. The staff of the Legislative Research Commission shall study:

(1) The effect a 40-hour work week would have on personnel costs and the number of employees needed;

(2) The number of hours other states require their employees to work; and

(3) The advantages and disadvantages to employees and agencies of a 40-hour work week.

→ Section 2. Staff shall transmit the results of the study to the Legislative Research Commission, for referral to the appropriate interim joint committee or committees, by November 1, 2016.

Section 3. Provisions of this Resolution to the contrary notwithstanding, the Legislative Research Commission shall have the authority to alternatively assign the issues identified herein to an interim joint committee or subcommittee thereof and to designate a study completion date.