

A RESOLUTION declaring February 4, 2016, Public Library Day.

WHEREAS, nearly 2.6 million Kentuckians have library cards and use their libraries to meet their basic needs and to enhance their lives; and

WHEREAS, citizens use public libraries to save money, educate their children, find jobs, and access the Internet; and

WHEREAS, librarians trained almost 34,000 Kentuckians in computer use last year; and

WHEREAS, public libraries provide programming to Kentuckians of all ages from toddlers to senior citizens; and

WHEREAS, public libraries are one of the Commonwealth's most important sources for information, and librarians answered approximately 4.5 million reference questions last year alone; and

WHEREAS, there is library service in every county in Kentucky, and there are 206 library facilities in Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky's public libraries use 75 bookmobiles to serve the Commonwealth's rural areas; and

WHEREAS, public libraries house over 4,800 computers that the public uses for information and writing; and

WHEREAS, the Kentucky State Auditor praised public libraries for their transparency in operations and their good management; and

WHEREAS, the Kentucky General Assembly's Public Library Caucus, a bipartisan organization, has supported policies and budgets that strengthen and advance Kentucky's public libraries; and

WHEREAS, Andrew Carnegie once said, "There is not such a cradle of democracy upon the earth as a free public library, this republic of letters, where neither rank, office, nor wealth receives the slightest consideration";

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

➔Section 1. The Senate hereby declares February 4, 2016, Public Library Day.

➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Senator Mike Wilson.