

1           A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION designating April 6, 2017, as World War One  
2 Centennial Day in the Commonwealth.

3           WHEREAS, April 6, 2017, marks the centennial of America's declaration of war  
4 against Imperial Germany and the country's entry into the First World War; and

5           WHEREAS, men and women from the Commonwealth have served in the Armed  
6 Forces with distinction in the Great War and those that followed, and they continue to  
7 serve in defense of our freedoms today; and

8           WHEREAS, Kentucky was chosen as the site of one of only 16 World War One  
9 cantonments, Camp Zachary Taylor in Louisville, where more than 150,000 men trained  
10 for service in the war; and

11           WHEREAS, two men with Kentucky backgrounds were awarded the Medal of  
12 Honor for valorous service in World War One: Captain Samuel Woodfall, a resident of  
13 Fort Thomas, and Sergeant Willie Sandlin of Buckhorn. When General Pershing was  
14 asked to name the most gallant among all of America's heroes from the Great War,  
15 Captain Woodfall was among his selection; and

16           WHEREAS, at least six men from Kentucky served in the legendary United States  
17 Army unit nicknamed the Harlem Hellfighters and were awarded the Croix de Guerre by  
18 the government of France for their valorous service in the war: Private Bert Beckham,  
19 Private Robert Wooten, Private Bradley Logan, and Private Ionia Harris, all of  
20 Shelbyville; Private Leonard Todd of Finchville; and Private John Ray Carter of  
21 Anderson County; and

22           WHEREAS, Kentucky is home to legendary military units at Fort Campbell and  
23 Fort Knox, as well as more than 300,000 veterans of all branches of the military; and

24           WHEREAS, Congress has officially created the World War One Centennial  
25 Commission to educate, commemorate, and honor this event in our history, and the  
26 Commonwealth has created the Kentucky World War One Centennial Committee to do  
27 the same; and

1           WHEREAS, nearly 100,000 Kentucky families were among the more than four  
2 million American families who sent their sons and daughters to serve in uniform during  
3 the Great War, with 116,516 soldiers giving their lives in combat, including 2,318  
4 Kentuckians, and another 200,000 were wounded;

5           NOW, THEREFORE,

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

8           ➔Section 1. The Senate encourages all citizens to remember and commemorate  
9 America's entry into the Great War and the sacrifices that awaited its citizens one hundred  
10 years ago.

11           ➔Section 2. The Senate and House of Representatives designate April 6, 2017, as  
12 World War One Centennial Day throughout the Commonwealth of Kentucky.