

1 A RESOLUTION recognizing the Masonic Homes of Kentucky.

2 WHEREAS, the 150th anniversary of the Masonic Homes of Kentucky is a
3 remarkable milestone for the longtime community caregiver, created to take in orphans
4 and widows of Masons killed in the Civil War, and that later served families affected by
5 World War I, coal mining accidents, and other hardships; and

6 WHEREAS, the Masons, a group with a legacy of giving and charity, saw early the
7 need for a home to tend to and care for those families left behind by the Civil War, a
8 conflict that hit Kentucky hard. Today, the Masons' tradition of doing good continues as
9 Masonic Homes has evolved to become an expert in modern aging care and other
10 specialized services for people of all ages and affiliations, at both its historic Louisville
11 location, as well as two other Kentucky campuses in Shelbyville and Northern Kentucky;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, the lives of many children from rural areas were transformed at
14 Masonic Homes as children were educated in traditional studies, and also learned
15 important trades such as printmaking, woodworking, and farming. For many of the kids,
16 coming to the Home gave them opportunities they otherwise would not have had; and

17 WHEREAS, in 1926, the Home moved to a larger, Olmstead-designed 127-acre site
18 as the need continued to grow and more Kentucky widows and orphans arrived as a result
19 of World War I, coal mining accidents, and other hardships. By 1927, 18 buildings were
20 completed and on August 14 of that year, 427 children were brought by bus and car to
21 live in their new quarters; and

22 WHEREAS, in 1989, the Home's last child left and the Home began to focus on
23 providing senior care by building The Pillars Assisted Care Center. It was the beginning
24 of a trajectory that took on a rapid pace in the early 2000s, with Spring Hill Retirement
25 Community in Taylor Mill established that year; and

26 WHEREAS, soon after, cutting-edge services and communities for memory care,
27 short- and long-term rehabilitation, personal care, skilled nursing care, dialysis, child

1 development, active lifestyle communities, Life Care, in-home care, and more were
2 added. This included the \$40 million Sam Swope Center in 2010, which offers person-
3 centered care in a home environment; and

4 WHEREAS, Sproutlings Pediatric Day Care and Preschool opened the next year on
5 the Louisville Campus, the only program in the region serving both medically fragile and
6 typical children; and

7 WHEREAS, Masonic Homes will soon add The Meadow, a new active lifestyle
8 facility, which joins the Miralea Active Lifestyle Community that was established in 2012
9 and achieved 95 percent occupancy in eight months. The Louisville Campus will soon
10 host a 48-unit assisted living facility called Grove Pointe; and

11 WHEREAS, in honor of Masonic Homes of Kentucky's heritage, hope, and home,
12 the Senate honors the organization for serving thousands of Kentucky residents each day,
13 employing more than 700 talented and passionate employees, and contributing to the
14 Commonwealth of Kentucky for 150 years;

15 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

18 ➔Section 1. The members of the Senate hereby recognize and honor Masonic
19 Homes of Kentucky.

20 ➔Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor of Masonic
21 Homes of Kentucky.

22 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
23 Resolution to Senator Albert Robinson for delivery.