

1           A RESOLUTION recognizing the bicentennial of Princeton, Kentucky.

2           WHEREAS, an Act of the Kentucky Legislature dated February 3, 1817,  
3 empowered five commissioners from Logan County to select the best location for the  
4 permanent seat of Caldwell County. In execution of this order, the commissioners  
5 convened on May 10, 1817, and after "considering conveniences and inconveniences,  
6 benefits and injuries" affixed their signatures to their report. This report legally and  
7 officially created the town "Prince's Place," known today as Princeton, and designated it  
8 as the permanent seat of justice for Caldwell County; and

9           WHEREAS, the new town, built on land that had been settled almost 20 years prior  
10 by William Prince, was located above a cave from which the "Big Spring" flowed and sat  
11 at the intersection of many ancient Native American trails and trade routes. The spring  
12 would later play an integral role in a dark chapter of history known as the "Trail of  
13 Tears," as thousands of Native Americans would pass through the area on a forced March  
14 to "Indian Territory"; and

15           WHEREAS, these trails would give way to stagecoach routes and railroads, and the  
16 town would thrive. From the early 1800s to the early 1900s, it would be known as the  
17 "Athens of the Western Pennyrile" for its numerous quality private educational  
18 institutions, which varied from sophisticated finishing schools for young ladies to a  
19 highly regarded four-year college; and

20           WHEREAS, the town's lifeblood was agriculture, especially "dark-fired" tobacco.  
21 Tobacco would bring industry in the form of some of the world's largest warehouses and  
22 stemmeries. It would also bring the terror of the "Black Patch War"; and

23           WHEREAS, the twentieth century would see growth in industry, the hard times of  
24 the Great Depression, and young men sent off to war on foreign shores. During the 1950s  
25 and 1960s, the rise of commercial agriculture and a parkway and interstate system  
26 bringing tourism were celebrated; and

27           WHEREAS, Princeton is a town that has seen, at times, a decline in industry but

1 never in its spirit. The small town at the "Heart of the Black Patch," with its rich history  
2 and people of goodwill, now embarks upon its bicentennial celebration;

3 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

6 ➔Section 1. The Senate hereby recognizes Princeton, Kentucky, upon its  
7 bicentennial, and congratulates the town's citizens and its civic leaders for all they have  
8 done to make Princeton a jewel of this great Commonwealth.

9 ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this  
10 Resolution to Senator Dorsey Ridley.