

1           A RESOLUTION urging Kentucky Governor Matthew G. Bevin to exempt the  
2 Family Resource and Youth Services Centers of Kentucky from budget cuts through  
3 fiscal year 2020.

4           WHEREAS, the House of Representatives of the General Assembly recognizes that  
5 an investment in Kentucky students and their families is not only an investment in  
6 students' academic achievement, but also an investment in workforce and economic  
7 development in Kentucky; and

8           WHEREAS, the House of Representatives of the General Assembly acknowledges  
9 that this Commonwealth has seen a significant and persistent gap in achievement among  
10 students eligible for free and reduced-price school meals and other student groups; and

11           WHEREAS, 811 Family Resource and Youth Services Centers across the  
12 Commonwealth provide a unique blend of programs and services designed to serve the  
13 specific needs of students and families in the communities they serve; and

14           WHEREAS, the programs and services of the Family Resource Centers include  
15 full-time preschool child care, after-school child care, families in training programs for  
16 new and expectant parents, family literacy services, and health services and referrals; and

17           WHEREAS, the programs and services of the Youth Services Centers include  
18 referrals to health and social services, career exploration and development services,  
19 summer and part-time job development for high school students, substance abuse  
20 education and counseling, and family crisis and mental health counseling; and

21           WHEREAS, these programs and services are designed to enhance academic  
22 achievement by helping students and their families overcome nonacademic, noncognitive  
23 barriers to learning; and

24           WHEREAS, Family Resource and Youth Services Centers have established a  
25 record of success based on improved student performance in class work, homework, and  
26 peer relations as reported by teachers; and

27           WHEREAS, an impressive 97% of the fiscal year 2018 operating budget of

1 Kentucky's Family Resource and Youth Services Centers is allocated directly to the local  
2 Family Resource and Youth Services Centers; and

3 WHEREAS, the number of students eligible for free and reduced-price school  
4 meals has increased by 29% over the last ten years, increasing the demand for the  
5 programs and services of Family Resource and Youth Services Centers; and

6 WHEREAS, this increased demand has caused the amount of money allocated per  
7 student for the programs and services of Family Resource and Youth Services Centers to  
8 drop from \$210 to \$170.05 over the last ten years; and

9 WHEREAS, a further reduction in the amount of money allocated per student for  
10 the programs and services of Family Resource and Youth Services Centers threatens to  
11 exaggerate the current achievement gap between students eligible for free or reduced-  
12 price school meals and other student groups; and

13 WHEREAS, the House of Representatives of the General Assembly is committed to  
14 closing all academic achievement gaps, including the achievement gap between students  
15 eligible for free or reduced-price school meals and other student groups;

16 NOW, THEREFORE,

17 ***Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the***  
18 ***Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

19 ➔Section 1. Governor Matthew G. Bevin is urged to exempt the Family Resource  
20 and Youth Services Centers of Kentucky from budget cuts through fiscal year 2020.