

1           A RESOLUTION recognizing March 11, 2018, as Mountain Dulcimer Day in  
2 Kentucky.

3           WHEREAS, the Mountain Dulcimer is renowned for its heritage that stems from  
4 the scattered settlements of the Appalachian Mountains, and is known as one of the  
5 earliest examples of cultural diversity that encompasses several settlements of the  
6 Appalachian region; and

7           WHEREAS, acclaimed to be the melody of many within the Southern Appalachian  
8 culture, the Mountain Dulcimer is often deemed the Kentucky Dulcimer. James Edward  
9 Thomas, a son of Kentucky, was credited for being the premier dulcimer maker in the late  
10 1870s until his passing in 1933; and

11           WHEREAS, Kentuckians such as Bristol Taylor, Jethro Amburgey, Homer C.  
12 Ledford, John Tignor, Warren A. May, and many more continued the legacy of making  
13 dulcimers. The instrument is continually reinvented by makers to preserve the uniqueness  
14 of its melody; and

15           WHEREAS, the late Jean Ritchie, a native of Viper, Kentucky, revived the musical  
16 lap instrument in Eastern Kentucky approximately in the early 1940s through the folk  
17 music revival scene; and

18           WHEREAS, the revival of the Mountain Dulcimer enabled players to evolve their  
19 technique and repertoire from the traditional ranges founded in the mountains; and

20           WHEREAS, today, the current repertoire of players ranges from party and play  
21 songs of the Celtic countries, minstrel tunes, gospel, blues, and many more to illustrate  
22 the historic culture of the Mountain Dulcimer; and

23           WHEREAS, the Hindman Settlement School and Appalachian Artisan Center in  
24 Hindman, Kentucky are pivotal in preserving and promoting the cultural heritage of the  
25 Central Appalachian region which ensures that the Mountain Dulcimer and the legacy  
26 illustrated within its melody will be everlasting;

27           NOW, THEREFORE,

1 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the*  
2 *Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3       ➔Section 1. The House of Representatives recognizes March 11, 2018, as  
4 Mountain Dulcimer Day in Kentucky, and petitions all of the Commonwealth's citizens to  
5 join in paying sincere tribute to one of America's oldest folk instruments which is central  
6 to the rich history of the Hindman community.

7       ➔Section 2. When the House of Representatives adjourns this day, it does so in  
8 recognition and celebration of the Mountain Dulcimer.

9       ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a  
10 copy of this Resolution to Representative John Blanton for delivery.