

1           A JOINT RESOLUTION directing the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet to  
2 identify American Revolutionary War and Civil War battlefield preservation needs,  
3 suggest a long-term funding strategy to preserve historic battlefields, and submit a report  
4 to the Legislative Research Commission on its findings.

5           WHEREAS, because of the efforts of early citizen soldiers, the United States of  
6 America is the world's oldest and most successful democratic republic; and

7           WHEREAS, Kentucky was the site of numerous battles during the American  
8 Revolutionary War and the Civil War, many of which played a significant role in the  
9 outcome of major military campaigns and the course of these wars; and

10          WHEREAS, the battles of the American Revolutionary War and the Civil War  
11 shaped who we are today, and by preserving these battlegrounds as outdoor classrooms,  
12 we provide educational opportunities that can serve as a foundation for good citizenship  
13 and the development of leaders for tomorrow; and

14          WHEREAS, preserving these hallowed battlefields provides the opportunity to tell  
15 the American story, where ordinary citizens displayed extraordinary valor; and

16          WHEREAS, the preservation of these battlefields is important to ensure their  
17 integrity in perpetuity so that future citizens and visitors can experience the landscapes as  
18 our soldiers saw it; and

19          WHEREAS, the preservation of these battlefields provides civic pride,  
20 opportunities for education, commemorative events, and tourism opportunities across the  
21 Commonwealth; and

22          WHEREAS, it has been shown that visitors to historic sites spend more money and  
23 stay longer than other tourist subgroups; and

24          WHEREAS, visitors to Kentucky's battlefields stimulate local economies while  
25 enjoying the rich historical, cultural, and natural resources, thereby generating jobs and  
26 economic activity;

27          NOW, THEREFORE,

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

2       ➔Section 1. The Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet shall prepare a report  
3 identifying historically significant American Revolutionary War and Civil War  
4 battlefields in Kentucky, determining what is needed to protect and preserve these  
5 battlefields, and suggesting a long-term funding strategy for their protection and  
6 preservation. The report also shall identify and summarize the efforts made by the states  
7 of Virginia, West Virginia, and Tennessee to preserve and protect historically significant  
8 battlefields.

9       ➔Section 2. To aid in the preparation of the report described in Section 1 of this  
10 Resolution, the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet shall conduct at least two public  
11 meetings in which representatives from the Department of Tourism, the Kentucky  
12 Heritage Council, the Kentucky Historical Society, the Kentucky Civil War Sites  
13 Association, the Civil War Trust, and local battlefield support groups in Kentucky are  
14 invited to participate in identifying historically significant battlefields in Kentucky and to  
15 offer suggestions for their protection and preservation.

16       ➔Section 3. The Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet shall submit the final report  
17 described in Section 1 on or before November 1 of this Resolution, 2018 to the  
18 Legislative Research Commission, which shall refer the report to the Interim Joint  
19 Committee on Tourism, Small Business, and Information Technology.