

1 A RESOLUTION urging the board of education or board of trustees of a school to
2 allow teachers and other school personnel who volunteer and are properly trained to carry
3 firearms for their own protection and the protection of students.

4 WHEREAS, in the last five years, there have been more than 200 shootings within
5 school buildings in the United States; and

6 WHEREAS, our own Marshall County High School in Benton, Kentucky, was
7 victim to gun violence this year when two students lost their lives and fourteen were
8 injured as an armed student opened fire on January 23, 2018; and

9 WHEREAS, in an age where more and more incidents of school shootings occur, it
10 is clear children and school personnel are left vulnerable; and

11 WHEREAS, Section 1 of the Kentucky Constitution and the Second Amendment to
12 the United States Constitution allows for the right to keep and bear arms; and

13 WHEREAS, KRS 527.070 specifically allows the board of education or board of
14 trustees of the public or private institution to authorize the carrying of a firearm on school
15 grounds; and

16 WHEREAS, the Protecting our Students and Teachers (POST) program is a viable
17 option for protecting our schools and most vulnerable citizens; and

18 WHEREAS, developed in Kentucky, the POST program is based on concepts
19 developed for the National Armed Pilots Program and incorporates lessons learned by
20 law enforcement in the almost 20 years since Columbine; and

21 WHEREAS, schools throughout our Commonwealth should have the option to train
22 with the POST model to deter nefarious actors and initiate an immediate armed response
23 through a thoroughness of training; and

24 WHEREAS, with the right training and coordinated effort, tragedies like Benton,
25 Sandy Hook, Columbine, and Paducah could be mitigated effectively preventing the loss
26 of innocent life;

27 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

3 ➔Section 1. The Senate does hereby encourage the board of education or board of
4 trustees to allow teachers and school personnel who volunteer and are properly trained to
5 carry firearms for the protection of students and staff.

6 ➔Section 2. The Senate recognizes the benefit of effective training and
7 coordination within schools to promote the safeguarding of innocent lives.

8 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
9 Resolution to the office of Senator John Schickel for delivery.