

1 A RESOLUTION honoring Rachael Denhollander.

2 WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this body acknowledge the sacrifices made by
3 those in our society who have bravely shed light on sexual abuse and assault; and

4 WHEREAS, many times these sacrifices are made by a single person, a lone voice
5 that speaks so loudly and courageously that it allows others to follow; and

6 WHEREAS, Rachael Denhollander, a mother of three who resides in Louisville,
7 was the first victim to accuse Larry Nassar, a sports physician at Michigan State
8 University, of sexual abuse. She was also the last of more than 150 women to testify at
9 Mr. Nassar's trial in January 2018; and

10 WHEREAS, in her powerful statement, Rachael Denhollander asked Judge
11 Rosemarie Aquilina, "How much is a little girl worth? How much is a young woman
12 worth? How much priority should be placed on communicating that the fullest weight of
13 the law will be used to protect another innocent child from the soul-shattering devastation
14 that sexual assault brings? I submit to you that these children are worth everything"; and

15 WHEREAS, Larry Nassar was sentenced to up to 175 years in prison for his crimes.
16 "I've just signed your death warrant," Judge Aquilina said after handing down her
17 sentence; and

18 WHEREAS, it is a testament to the human spirit that in times of utmost despair,
19 some among us can rise up and serve as an example to others of hope, strength, and
20 renewal; and

21 WHEREAS, Rachael Denhollander is one such woman, and on this day each
22 member of this body thanks her for her unbreakable will and acknowledges her for what
23 she has always been: a hero of the first order;

24 NOW, THEREFORE,

25 ***Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of***
26 ***Kentucky:***

27 ➔Section 1. The members of the Senate hereby honor Rachael Denhollander.

1 ➔Section 2. The members also condemn all forms of systemic sexual abuse, and
2 affirm the profound bravery displayed by Rachael Denhollander and every individual who
3 has come forward to tell her or his story.

4 ➔Section 3. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor of and
5 gratitude to Rachael Denhollander.

6 ➔Section 4. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
7 Resolution to Senator Morgan McGarvey.