

1 A RESOLUTION honoring the University of Kentucky football team on their 2018
2 season and celebrating their win in the Citrus Bowl.

3 WHEREAS, the University of Kentucky football team entered the 2018 season with
4 high expectations. Coming off a 2017 season that saw the Wildcats win seven games and
5 earn a berth in the Music City Bowl, UK returned a majority of its defense and an All-
6 American candidate in Benny Snell Jr. at running back; and

7 WHEREAS, the Wildcats more than fulfilled their potential, winning ten games for
8 the first time since 1977 and notching their finest season since the Bear Bryant era; and

9 WHEREAS, the University of Kentucky began their season in incredible fashion.
10 On September 8, 2018, the Wildcats defeated the University of Florida for the first time
11 since 1986 by a score of 27-16; and

12 WHEREAS, the win over Florida catapulted the Wildcats into SEC play. Kentucky
13 went on to dismantle the number 14-ranked Mississippi State Bulldogs. After an overtime
14 loss at Texas A&M, Kentucky roared back to beat Vanderbilt before stunning Missouri
15 with a last-second touchdown; and

16 WHEREAS, the University of Kentucky finished its season with two consecutive
17 wins, the final victory a 56-10 drubbing of archrival Louisville, to earn a berth in the
18 prestigious Citrus Bowl against college football powerhouse Penn State; and

19 WHEREAS, Kentucky led the entire way against the Nittany Lions, and behind
20 Benny Snell Jr.'s 144 yards and two touchdowns and Josh Allen's three sacks, Kentucky
21 came out victorious and sealed one of the finest seasons in the history of its program; and

22 WHEREAS, even though the 2018 season was a culmination of teamwork and
23 extraordinary coaching, the Wildcats saw several stellar individual performances; and

24 WHEREAS, Benny Snell Jr. became the University of Kentucky's all-time leading
25 rusher in the third quarter of the Citrus Bowl. His 3,873 career yards places him first all-
26 time ahead of Sonny Collins, and his 48 career touchdowns is also a Wildcat career
27 record; and

1 WHEREAS, defensively the Wildcats were paced by All-American defensive end
2 Josh Allen, who recorded a school-record 17 sacks in 2018. His 31.5 career sacks was
3 also a University of Kentucky record; and

4 WHEREAS, the Wildcats got superb efforts from a number of other players,
5 including return man and wide receiver Lynn Bowden Jr., whose 58-yard touchdown on a
6 punt return was a major turning point in the Citrus Bowl victory; and

7 WHEREAS, quarterback Terry Wilson finished the season with 1,889 passing yards
8 and 11 touchdowns, while Darius West, Mike Edwards, Davonte Robinson, Derrick Baity
9 Jr., Lonnie Johnson Jr., and Chris Westry headed up the best secondary in the history of
10 the program; and

11 WHEREAS, linebacker Kash Daniel, a Paintsville native, collected 84 tackles on
12 the season and was a dominant force for the entire year in the middle of Kentucky's
13 vaunted defensive attack; and

14 WHEREAS, this august body rightfully honors those athletic accomplishments that
15 are so historic that they upend decades of struggle and frustration; and

16 WHEREAS, in so doing, this body congratulates the University of Kentucky
17 Wildcats football team upon their historic 2018 season and their win against Penn State in
18 the Citrus Bowl; acknowledges the hard work of Head Coach Mark Stoops and his
19 talented coaching staff for their leadership of these student-athletes on and off the field;
20 and commends the entire Big Blue Nation for standing behind this historic football team;

21 NOW, THEREFORE,

22 ***Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the***
23 ***Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

24 ➔Section 1. The members of the House of Representatives hereby honor the
25 University of Kentucky football team upon their 2018 season and congratulate them for
26 their win in the Citrus Bowl.

27 ➔Section 2. When the House of Representatives adjourns this day, it does so in

- 1 honor of the University of Kentucky football team.
- 2 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a
- 3 copy of this Resolution to Representative Ruth Ann Palumbo.