

1 A RESOLUTION proclaiming June as Scleroderma Awareness Month in Kentucky.

2 WHEREAS, scleroderma is a chronic connective tissue disease which affects
3 approximately 4,000 Kentuckians and about 300,000 Americans; and

4 WHEREAS, scleroderma is an autoimmune rheumatic disease in which the buildup
5 of collagen causes a tightening of skin and connective tissue; and

6 WHEREAS, the symptoms of scleroderma can vary greatly for each person, ranging
7 from very mild, in which mobility is somewhat limited, to life-threatening, in which
8 internal organs are damaged, leading to severe complications, even death; and

9 WHEREAS, prompt and proper diagnosis and treatment by qualified physicians can
10 minimize the symptoms and lessen the chance for irreversible damage, but there is
11 currently no known cure for the disease; and

12 WHEREAS, female patients outnumber male patients about four to one; and

13 WHEREAS, scleroderma can develop in every age group from infants to the
14 elderly, but its onset is most frequent between the ages of 25 to 55; and

15 WHEREAS, increasing awareness of scleroderma and educating the populace about
16 the disease have the potential to encourage more research in hopes of improving
17 treatment options and finding a cure;

18 NOW, THEREFORE,

19 ***Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the***
20 ***Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

21 ➔Section 1. The House of Representatives does hereby proclaim June as
22 Scleroderma Awareness Month in Kentucky to promote increased awareness and
23 education and encourage further research and treatment of the disease.

24 ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a
25 copy of this Resolution to Kathie Schwartz, 412 Riverside Drive, Covington, Kentucky
26 41011.