

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging Congress to propose the Parental Rights
2 Amendment to the states for ratification.

3 WHEREAS, the right of parents to direct the upbringing, education, and care of
4 their children is a fundamental right protected by the Constitution of the United States
5 and the State of Kentucky; and

6 WHEREAS, our nation has historically relied first and foremost on parents to meet
7 the real and constant needs of children; and

8 WHEREAS, the interests of children are best served when parents are free to make
9 child-rearing decisions about education, religion, and other areas of a child's life without
10 state interference; and

11 WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court in *Wisconsin v. Yoder* (1972) has
12 held that "This primary role of the parents in the upbringing of their children is now
13 established beyond debate as an enduring American tradition"; and

14 WHEREAS, however, the United States Supreme Court in *Troxel v. Granville*
15 (2000) produced six different opinions on the nature and enforceability of parental rights
16 under the United States Constitution; and

17 WHEREAS, this decision has created confusion and ambiguity about the
18 fundamental nature of parental rights in law and society among the states; and

19 WHEREAS, several United States Representatives and Senators have introduced
20 Parental Rights Amendments, to prevent erosion of the enduring American tradition of
21 treating parental rights as fundamental rights; and

22 WHEREAS, the Parental Rights Amendment will protect in perpetuity the rights of
23 parents as they are now enjoyed, without substantive change to current state or federal
24 laws respecting parental rights; and

25 WHEREAS, the Parental Rights Amendment will preserve parental rights from
26 being infringed upon by the shifting ideologies and interpretations of the United States
27 Supreme Court;

1 NOW, THEREFORE,

2 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*
3 *Kentucky, the House of Representatives concurring therein:*

4 ➔Section 1. The General Assembly respectfully urges the United States Congress
5 to propose the Parental Rights Amendment to the states for ratification.

6 ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate shall send a copy of this Resolution to the
7 President and Vice President of the United States of America, the Speaker of the United
8 States House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the United States House of
9 Representatives, the Majority Leader of the United States Senate, the Minority Leader of
10 the United States Senate, and each member of the Kentucky Congressional Delegation.