

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION commemorating the Presidents' Day celebration
2 at Kentucky's Old Capitol on February 19, 2019, and recognizing the efforts of the
3 Kentucky Historical Society.

4 WHEREAS, it is here, in the chambers of the Old Capitol, that the firmament of
5 this Commonwealth's history was conceived and enacted; and

6 WHEREAS, the Old Capitol was constructed from 1827 until 1830 by renowned
7 Lexington architect Gideon Shryock; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Shryock was 25 years old when he was commissioned to build the
9 Old Capitol, and this building was his very first project; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Shryock entered a contest sponsored by the General Assembly.
11 After his designs were chosen, he was awarded \$150, and construction of this historic
12 building was begun; and

13 WHEREAS, the Old Capitol stood as the center of state government in the
14 Commonwealth of Kentucky from 1830 until 1910; and

15 WHEREAS, the halls of the Old Capitol were graced by the likes of such respected
16 Kentuckians as Henry Clay, and it was where the acrimonious words of secession echoed,
17 as they did during the inauguration of Confederate Governor Richard Hawes on October
18 4, 1862, when Hawes and his Confederates were driven out of the Old Capitol by Union
19 troops; and

20 WHEREAS, during the Civil War, the Old Capitol was used as a Union barracks,
21 and it was also here that decisions about Kentucky's eventual neutrality during the war
22 were made; and

23 WHEREAS, the Old Capitol has witnessed the Commonwealth's darkest days, such
24 as in the winter of 1900 when William Goebel was assassinated outside its halls, but it
25 has also seen the true spirit of Kentucky and it stands to this day as a testament to
26 Kentuckians' ingenuity, equanimity, and dedication to the rule of law; and

27 WHEREAS, it is in this spirit that the Kentucky General Assembly convenes in

1 rightful recognition of Presidents' Day, and in so doing the members of this august body
2 thank all those involved with the Kentucky Historical Society, whose hard work brings
3 the Old Capitol to life for visitors every day; and

4 WHEREAS, the body also thanks Kentucky Historical Society Executive Director
5 Scott Alvey, and commends him for his vision and dedication to the deep and resonant
6 history of our great Commonwealth;

7 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

10 ➔Section 1. On this day in the Old Capitol, draped in the history of this venerable
11 landmark, the General Assembly proudly recalls the accomplishments of great
12 Kentuckians who served in these chambers, and duly commends the hard work of the
13 Kentucky Historical Society for all it has done to make this Presidents' Day celebration a
14 reality.

15 ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
16 Resolution to Senator Robert Stivers II.