

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the United States Congress to modify
2 permanent and partial disability benefits to encourage reentry into the workforce.

3 WHEREAS, the United States is experiencing a nearly unprecedented economic
4 boom; and

5 WHEREAS, the national unemployment rate has dropped below four percent which
6 has created additional demand for new workers; and

7 WHEREAS, 71 million Americans have a disability that impacts a major life
8 activity like employment; and

9 WHEREAS, the average monthly disability payment of \$1,258 is well below the
10 poverty line for a family of four; and

11 WHEREAS, the Social Security Insurance program has created the Ticket to Work
12 program which encourages disability recipients to reenter the workforce by allowing
13 periods of transition without loss of benefit payments; and

14 WHEREAS, 316,000 citizens have benefited from the Ticket to Work program;

15 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

18 ➔Section 1. The General Assembly:

19 (1) Commends the United States Congress for the innovative work of the Ticket to
20 Work program;

21 (2) Applauds the 316,000 citizens who have participated in the program as a step to
22 reentry into the workforce;

23 (3) Encourages the Social Security Administration to augment its current efforts to
24 disseminate information to the public about the Ticket to Work program;

25 (4) Requests the United States Congress undertake comprehensive reform of the Social
26 Security Disability programs to better distinguish between fraudulent and legitimate
27 claims and to facilitate return to work options for those who wish and are able to do

1 so; and

2 (5) Urges the United States Congress to modify the disability insurance program to find
3 similar measures which offer transitional incentives and financial assistance to
4 disabled workers who reenter the workforce.

5 ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the House of Representatives shall send a copy of this
6 Resolution upon its adoption to each member of Kentucky's Congressional delegation.