

1           A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION establishing the Aerospace and Aviation  
2 Caucus within the Kentucky General Assembly.

3           WHEREAS, aerospace exports are the top export manufactured in Kentucky, with a  
4 value of \$12.5 billion in 2018 and an estimated value of \$14 billion in 2019; and

5           WHEREAS, aerospace exports have increased 183 percent in the past five years;  
6 and

7           WHEREAS, according to the United States Census Bureau, Kentucky ranked  
8 second in the country in international exports of aerospace products and parts in 2018;  
9 and

10          WHEREAS, products exported include civilian aircraft, engines, and parts as well  
11 as parts and supplies to the defense industry; and

12          WHEREAS, it is estimated that the aerospace industry supports close to 21,000 jobs  
13 and nearly \$1.5 billion in wages in Kentucky; and

14          WHEREAS, the aerospace industry in Kentucky has seen a 63 percent increase in  
15 employment since 2000; and

16          WHEREAS, Kentucky's universities are leading the way in the aviation and  
17 aerospace fields with programs at Eastern Kentucky University, the University of  
18 Kentucky, the University of Louisville, Morehead State University, Murray State  
19 University, Western Kentucky University, Somerset Community College, and Jefferson  
20 Community and Technical College all fielding renowned programs; and

21          WHEREAS, Kentucky has two international airports and many other airports that  
22 serve over five million passengers per year; and

23          WHEREAS, Louisville International Airport and Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky  
24 International Airport are both ranked in the top ten of cargo airports by volume in the  
25 United States; and

26          WHEREAS, three international freight forwarders call Kentucky home; and

27          WHEREAS, Kentucky has logistical advantages by being within a day's drive of

1 two-thirds of the population of the United States as it is in the center of the 34-state  
2 distribution area in the eastern United States; and

3 WHEREAS, it is advisable for the Commonwealth to continue to press its  
4 competitive advantage, explore paths to continued growth and vitality, maintain a highly  
5 skilled and experienced workforce, and address the opportunities and challenges  
6 presented in the aerospace and aviation industry; and

7 WHEREAS, a legislative caucus dedicated to aerospace and aviation will allow the  
8 General Assembly to take a leading role in working with the industry and others to retain  
9 and grow this important Kentucky industry;

10 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

13 ➔Section 1. There is hereby established a nonpartisan, bicameral caucus within  
14 the Kentucky General Assembly to be called the Aerospace and Aviation Caucus.

15 ➔Section 2. The Aerospace and Aviation Caucus shall work to promote and  
16 develop initiatives in the Kentucky General Assembly that further the economic interests  
17 of the Commonwealth by encouraging the growth and vitality of the aerospace and  
18 aviation industry. The caucus shall work closely with the Kentucky Commission on  
19 Military Affairs and industry organizations such as the Kentucky Association of  
20 Manufacturers, the Kentucky Aviation Association, the official Aviation Museum of  
21 Kentucky, the official Kentucky Aviation Hall of Fame and others to achieve these goals.

22 ➔Section 3. It is respectfully requested that the Speaker of the House of  
23 Representatives and the President of the Senate support the creation of the Aerospace and  
24 Aviation Caucus by encouraging members of each chamber to participate in the caucus.