

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION requesting state and local officials and the
2 judiciary to dedicate resources and adopt practices to preserve public investments.

3 WHEREAS, since antiquity, civilization has seen fit to memorialize people and
4 events holding such significance in peoples' consciousness through the erection,
5 acquisition, and subsequent dedication to the public of monuments, edifices, graves, and
6 lands; and

7 WHEREAS, these monuments, edifices, graves, and lands are material
8 representations of the ideals and values of the people who at the time erected,
9 constructed, or preserved them; and

10 WHEREAS, through the inexorable cadence of time, each moment replete with
11 human experience adding to the calculus of human existence since the moment before it,
12 these monuments, edifices, graves, and lands -- these symbols of human experience --
13 accrete the ideals and values of the people gazing upon them and maintaining them; and

14 WHEREAS, while these monuments, edifices, graves, and lands, represent specific
15 moments in history, they also represent investments of resources in many forms, whether
16 that investment may be in the form of fiscal resources or an aggregation of physical labor
17 for the construction or preservation of the monument, edifice, grave, or land, or, in some
18 cases, a coalescing and subsequent accomplishment of an ideal or even a surrendering of
19 lives that served as inspiration to the dedication of the monument, edifice, grave, or land;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, being dedicated to the public, when the opinion of the people changes
22 to such a collective degree as to trigger discourse relative to the disposition of a
23 monument, edifice, or land, the executions of the results of that discourse should be
24 through the auspices of those elected or appointed by the people through the laws of our
25 lands; and

26 WHEREAS, when people, deface, damage, destroy, or otherwise dispose of these
27 monuments, edifices, graves, and lands that are in the public care without availing

1 themselves of the processes established by the officials charged and entrusted with the
2 care of those monuments, edifices, graves, and lands, irreparable damage can be done,
3 and the monuments, edifices, graves, and lands may be lost forever while denying public
4 input into the ultimate disposition of the monuments, edifices, graves, and lands, and the
5 very rule of law itself is eroded, as the authority of those duly elected and appointed
6 leaders is eschewed; and

7 WHEREAS, the value of public property has been made manifest for decades in
8 public law, and, within our Commonwealth, state and local laws make the damaging of
9 such punishable in the form of incarceration and civil fine; and

10 WHEREAS, if public law is not upheld in all phases of its discharge, it is very
11 likely that the damage and destruction of many more monuments, edifices, graves, and
12 lands will continue unchecked;

13 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

16 ➔Section 1. In order to preserve the investment of the people into publicly
17 dedicated monuments, edifices, graves, and lands, and to deal with the disposition of any
18 publicly dedicated monument, edifice, grave, or land when its disposition is brought into
19 question, leaders of our Commonwealth, leaders of county government, leaders of city
20 government, and leaders of any boards and commissions responsible for monuments,
21 edifices, graves, and lands are implored to make resources available for the protection of
22 these monuments, edifices, graves, and lands by ensuring adequate law enforcement
23 protection, and any other protections these leaders deem expedient for the protection of
24 the monuments, edifices, graves, or lands, as well as the citizens of the Commonwealth.

25 ➔Section 2. In order to protect the monuments, edifices, graves, and lands extant
26 in the Commonwealth, through discouraging the damaging of publicly dedicated
27 monuments, edifices, graves, and lands, peace officers and prosecutors and other

1 members of the Kentucky Court of Justice, including county attorneys, Commonwealth's
2 attorneys, and the Kentucky Attorney General, are strongly encouraged to charge and
3 pursue the most stringent violations against such defacement and damage, and the judges
4 of the Circuit, District, and appellate courts are strongly encouraged to impose and sustain
5 sentences against persons convicted of these offenses to the maximum penalties permitted
6 under law.

7 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
8 Resolution to Mayor Bill Dieruf, President, Kentucky League of Cities, 100 E. Vine
9 Street, Suite 800, Lexington, KY 40507; Boone County Judge/Executive Gary W. Moore,
10 President, Kentucky Association of Counties, 400 Englewood Drive, Frankfort, KY
11 40601; Chief Art Ealum, President, in the care of Chief Shawn Butler, Executive
12 Director, Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police, 738 Timberline Drive, Villa Hills,
13 KY 41017; Daniel Cameron, Kentucky Attorney General, Suite 118, 700 Capital Avenue,
14 Frankfort, KY 40601; and Judge John D. Minton, Jr., Chief Justice, Supreme Court of
15 Kentucky, State Capitol, Room 235, 700 Capital Avenue, Frankfort, KY 40601.