

1 A RESOLUTION recognizing March 4, 2021, as World Obesity Day in the
2 Commonwealth of Kentucky.

3 WHEREAS, obesity is a growing epidemic, affecting about 40 percent of adults in
4 the United States, and is recognized as a chronic disease by many leading medical
5 professional and patient organizations, including the American Medical Association,
6 American Heart Association, American Academy of Family Physicians, American Board
7 of Obesity Medicine, Endocrine Society, and the Obesity Society; and

8 WHEREAS, experts and researchers agree obesity is a complex disease influenced
9 by various psychological, environmental, and genetic factors and those affected by the
10 disease are at a higher risk of developing many health-related conditions such as type 2
11 diabetes, high blood pressure, cardiovascular disease, stroke, and some cancers; and

12 WHEREAS, according to the Trust for America's Health, obesity impacts more
13 than 36 percent of Kentucky residents and more than 23 percent of children ages 10-17;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, the national Obesity Action Coalition identifies the annual total cost
16 and economic impact of obesity in Kentucky at more than \$36 billion and \$1.7 trillion
17 nationally; and

18 WHEREAS, all types of citizens are affected by the disease; however, according to
19 the National Center for Health Statistics, it has a disproportionate impact among lower
20 income individuals, those with less education, and minority communities; and

21 WHEREAS, studies show bias and stigma against people affected by obesity, both
22 societal and among healthcare professionals, are significant barriers to effectively treating
23 the disease; and

24 WHEREAS, prevention programs, comprehensive care, and treatment are essential
25 tools in mitigating the human and economic costs of this public health crisis; and

26 WHEREAS, research suggests a weight loss of 5 to 10 percent can improve health
27 and reduce the risk of some obesity-related diseases and can thereby advance the goals of

1 state public health initiatives to reduce chronic disease, improve health outcomes, and
2 control healthcare costs;

3 NOW, THEREFORE,

4 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the*
5 *Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

6 ➔Section 1. This honorable body recognizes March 4, 2021, as World Obesity
7 Day in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

8 ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a
9 copy of this Resolution to Representative Kimberly Moser.