

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION to encourage the Education and Workforce  
2 Development Cabinet to encourage Kentucky businesses to create career paths for  
3 individuals that are in need of second chances and to encourage Kentucky businesses to  
4 not have "zero tolerance" policies for employees related to substance use disorder.

5 WHEREAS, the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce statistics show work on a  
6 database of employers in Kentucky who have nearly 90,000 job opportunities for  
7 individuals with a Substance Use Disorder; and

8 WHEREAS, 2020 Regular Session Senate Bill 191 was enacted and called on the  
9 Cabinet for Health and Family Services to establish a framework program to encourage  
10 employers to develop hiring practices related to creating fair chance employment  
11 opportunities for individuals with a substance use disorder; and

12 WHEREAS, since 2019 Kentucky Chamber Workforce Center has made over one-  
13 hundred and sixty presentations through technical workshops, webinars, and symposiums  
14 related to second chance employment to over 3,100 individuals across the state; and

15 WHEREAS, Kentucky ranks 49th in the nation for workforce participation among  
16 addicted or formerly incarcerated individuals; and

17 WHEREAS, according to the federal government's National Survey on Drug Use  
18 and Health, in the United States, seventeen percent of people that are unemployed have a  
19 substance abuse disorder, compared to nine percent of people who work full-time; and

20 WHEREAS, employment is mandatory for many diversion and treatment programs  
21 across the state; and

22 WHEREAS, of the 2.3 million people in American prisons and jails, more than  
23 sixty-five percent meet the criteria for addiction;

24 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

27 ➔Section 1. The Kentucky General Assembly hereby recognizes that an

1 individual with a substance use disorder face barriers to gainful employment and that  
2 employers are hesitant to employ an individual with a substance use disorder.

3       ➔Section 2. The Kentucky General Assembly hereby requests the Education and  
4 Workforce Development Cabinet to encourage Kentucky businesses to create career paths  
5 for individuals that are in need of second chances and to encourage Kentucky businesses  
6 to not have "zero tolerance" policies for employees related to substance use disorder.