

1           A RESOLUTION honoring the 13 brave men and women of the United States  
2 Armed Forces slain in the terrorist attack in Kabul, Afghanistan.

3           WHEREAS, the men and women who serve in the Armed Forces of the United  
4 States are our nation's backbone and are the best our country has to offer, showing  
5 courage and strength continuously in the face of grave danger; and

6           WHEREAS, on August 26, 2021, a suicide bomber detonated explosives at the  
7 Hamid Karzai International Airport where U.S. troops were searching evacuees rushing to  
8 depart the county. In addition to the 13 service members killed, at least 18 other service  
9 members were wounded in the bombing; and

10           WHEREAS, the United States of America will always remember and honor the  
11 sacrifice of our brave service members who paid the ultimate price: Marine Corps Lance  
12 Corporal David Espinoza, 20, of Rio Bravo, Texas; Marine Corps Sergeant Nicole Gee,  
13 23, of Sacramento, California; Marine Corps Staff Sergeant Darin Taylor Hoover, 31, of  
14 Salt Lake City, Utah; Army Staff Sergeant Ryan Knauss, 23, of Corryton, Tennessee;  
15 Marine Corps Corporal Hunter Lopez, 22, of Indio, California; Marine Corps Lance  
16 Corporal Rylee McCollum, 20, of Jackson, Wyoming; Marine Corps Lance Corporal  
17 Dylan R. Merola, 20, of Rancho Cucamonga, California; Marine Corps Lance Corporal  
18 Kareem Nikoui, 20, of Norco, California; Marine Corps Corporal Daegan W. Page, 23, of  
19 Omaha, Nebraska; Marine Corps Sergeant Johanny Rosario Pichardo, 25, of Lawrence,  
20 Massachusetts; Marine Corps Corporal Humberto Sanchez, 22, of Logansport, Indiana;  
21 Marine Corps Lance Corporal Jared Schmitz, 20, of St. Charles, Missouri; and Navy  
22 Hospital Corpsman Maxton Soviak, 22, of Berlin Heights, Ohio; and

23           WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Kentucky has the highest respect and is deeply  
24 grateful for the ultimate sacrifice these brave men and women made for the freedom of all  
25 Americans. Their passing has left a void that cannot be filled and they will be mourned  
26 across the length and breadth of this nation;

27           NOW, THEREFORE,

1 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*  
2 *Kentucky:*

3       ➔Section 1. The Senate does hereby express its profound sense of sorrow upon  
4 the deaths of these 13 brave Americans and extends its most heartfelt sympathy to their  
5 family.

6       ➔Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in loving memory and  
7 honor of the 13 heroic service members who are gone far too soon.

8       ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this  
9 Resolution to the Office of Senator Mike Wilson.