

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION recognizing January 16 of each year as National  
2 Religious Freedom Day.

3 WHEREAS, religious freedom is a shared principle that lies at the heart of this  
4 great Nation's commitment to liberty; and

5 WHEREAS, religious freedom is also a keystone to the United States' values, its  
6 guiding tenets, and its strength as a country; and

7 WHEREAS, our Founders had a deep appreciation and understanding of religion  
8 and how it shaped their burgeoning society, and they sought to ensure that religious  
9 liberty was a right Americans should never stop striving to uphold; and

10 WHEREAS, recognizing and respecting the strongly held religious views of others  
11 are the key to avoiding division and discrimination; and

12 WHEREAS, it is essential that the people of this Commonwealth are free to express  
13 their religious beliefs without fear of prejudice or bias, and that all Kentuckians feel safe  
14 in their expression of faith without the threat of intimidation because of those beliefs; and

15 WHEREAS, this honorable body stands behind the First Amendment of the  
16 Constitution, which asserts that "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment  
17 of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof," and urges all citizens of this  
18 Commonwealth to defend the fundamental principles of religious liberty that our  
19 Founders so bravely expressed;

20 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

23 ➔Section 1. The Kentucky General Assembly rightfully embraces the shared  
24 belief that religious freedom is an inalienable right that is at the very heart of our strength  
25 as a just and law-abiding society.

26 ➔Section 2. The Kentucky General Assembly hereby recognizes January 16 of  
27 each year as National Religious Freedom Day.