

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION directing the Transportation Cabinet to designate the
2 Jimmy Lee Memorial Highway in Johnson County.

3 WHEREAS, Jimmy Lee was born September 6, 1945, in Johnson County,
4 Kentucky, and passed away January 25, 2021, at the age of 75; and

5 WHEREAS, following the tragic death of his father, Jimmy Lee was raised by his
6 grandparents, Cal and Audrey Selvage, in Van Lear, Kentucky; and

7 WHEREAS, Jimmy Lee had a modest childhood and his love of music began at an
8 early age when his grandparents gave him his first guitar, which was an extravagance; and

9 WHEREAS, Jimmy Lee would continue with his love of music and eventually find
10 a passion for playing banjo. He joined the bluegrass band Five Miles From Nowhere with
11 his friends, traveling Kentucky playing shows at several venues, including Van Lear
12 Days; and

13 WHEREAS, Jimmy Lee always looked forward to Van Lear Days. He spent his
14 time volunteering when possible, contributing as a philanthropist, and playing banjo with
15 his band. He loved his town of Van Lear and often referred to it as the most beautiful
16 place in the world and the best place to raise a family; and

17 WHEREAS, Jimmy Lee attended school as a Van Lear Bankmule where he played
18 baseball. He would later share his love of baseball with his grandson and great-
19 grandchildren; and

20 WHEREAS, Jimmy Lee's first job when he was 17 years old was working at the
21 Van Lear Post Office. He would later open stores in Van Lear and elsewhere in Johnson
22 County, including Lee's Grocery, where he would allow people all over the community to
23 pay as they could, choosing kindness over profit; and

24 WHEREAS, Jimmy Lee was a giving man who frequently helped others. He
25 continued his charity in his work with Van Lear Freewill Baptist Church, where he was
26 the treasurer and maintained the lawn; and

27 WHEREAS, Jimmy Lee married Patricia McCoart when they were teenagers. They

1 had two daughters, four grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. Jimmy Lee was a
2 loving family man. His family continues to nurture his spirit of love and kindness to
3 allow his memory to be preserved in their relationships with one another and their
4 community; and

5 WHEREAS, Jimmy Lee left a legacy of love in Van Lear. Through his
6 philanthropy and his ambition to build and help his community, he developed
7 relationships with his neighbors that made lasting impressions; and

8 WHEREAS, Jimmy Lee's life of honorable service is worthy of tangible recognition
9 in his community;

10 NOW, THEREFORE,

11 ***Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

12 ➔Section 1. The Transportation Cabinet shall designate Kentucky Route 302 in
13 Johnson County, at the foot of Richman Hill, just east of Van Lear (mile point 3.500), to
14 the intersection of Kentucky Route 302 and Kentucky Route 1107 (mile point 5.247), as
15 the "Jimmy Lee Memorial Highway" and shall, within 30 days of the effective date of this
16 Resolution, erect appropriate signs denoting this designation.