

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION granting the family of the last remaining World War II
2 veteran in Kentucky, upon his or her passing, the option of the veteran to lie in state in the
3 Capitol Rotunda and receive a funeral with full military honors.

4 WHEREAS, World War II was the most widespread war in history and lasted from
5 1939 until 1945. After the United States entered the war in 1941, following the attack on
6 Pearl Harbor, over 16 million Americans and over 307,000 Kentuckians served their
7 country and the Allied powers over the course of the war; and

8 WHEREAS, the generation of men and women who served our country in World
9 War II has been called the "greatest generation" for their selfless sacrifice; and

10 WHEREAS, a young man or woman who entered service in 1945 as an 18-year old
11 would now be 95 years old; and

12 WHEREAS, of the 16 million men and women who participated in World War II,
13 approximately 300,000 remain. It is estimated that Kentucky is home to approximately
14 2,000 to 3,000 World War II veterans; and

15 WHEREAS, Americans owe our freedom to these World War II veterans who
16 saved the world and as Kentuckians recognize their sacrifices and honor their legacy; and

17 WHEREAS, by granting these honors, the General Assembly signals its gratitude
18 and profound respect for all those brave men and women who served during World War
19 II;

20 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

22 ➔Section 1. Upon the passing of the last World War II veteran in Kentucky, the
23 Governor shall grant the honor of lying in state in the Capitol Rotunda and a full military
24 funeral with honors to the family of the decedent. The Governor shall direct the Kentucky
25 Department of Veterans Affairs to implement this Act and the department may
26 promulgate administrative regulations in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A for its
27 effectuation.