

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION designating the Sheriff Sam Catron Memorial Bridge in
2 Pulaski County.

3 WHEREAS, Samuel "Sam" Wilson Catron, a native of Pulaski County, was a 1971
4 graduate from Somerset High School who began his career in law enforcement as a
5 Pulaski County Sheriff's deputy in the mid-1970s; and

6 WHEREAS, Sam Catron served from 1982 to 1985 as chief of police for Ferguson,
7 Kentucky; and

8 WHEREAS, in 1985, Sam Catron was elected sheriff of Pulaski County, the office
9 he would hold for the rest of his life; and

10 WHEREAS, during his four terms as sheriff, Sam Catron served on the Kentucky
11 Governor's Task Force for Marijuana Eradication, the Pulaski County Rescue Squad, and
12 the Appalachian High Density Drug Traffic Area Task Force; was a member of the
13 National Sheriffs' Association; and was named Sheriff of the Year in 1989; and

14 WHEREAS, Sheriff Sam Catron was well known as an enemy of drug traffickers,
15 flying a helicopter to search for marijuana plants and filling courtrooms with offenders
16 his department had arrested; and

17 WHEREAS, Sam Catron served his community as a member of the board of his
18 local Boy Scout troop and was a Vigil life member and past chief of the Kawida Lodge
19 Order of the Arrow, Boy Scouts of America; and

20 WHEREAS, on the evening of April 13, 2002, after participating in a campaign
21 event while running for a fifth term, Sam Catron was struck down by an assassin's bullet,
22 the victim of a conspiracy involving a local drug dealer and a former deputy who at the
23 time was a candidate in the race for sheriff; and

24 WHEREAS, at his funeral, Sam Catron was mourned by over 2,000 mourners,
25 including Congressman Hal Rogers, who said of his friend, "Being sheriff, as we all
26 know, was Sammy's all. It was his love. It was his job. It was his joy"; and

27 WHEREAS, with the 20th anniversary of his tragic and senseless death

1 approaching, current Pulaski County Sheriff Greg Speck has requested the designation of
2 a bridge in Sam Catron's honor as a lasting memorial to his life of service and sacrifice to
3 the citizens of Pulaski County and the Commonwealth of Kentucky;

4 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

6 ➔Section 1. The Transportation Cabinet shall designate the bridge on the Hal
7 Rogers Parkway over Buck Creek in Pulaski County (bridge number 100B00080N) as the
8 "Sheriff Sam Catron Memorial Bridge" and shall, within 30 days of the effective date of
9 this Resolution, erect appropriate signs denoting this designation.