

1 A RESOLUTION recognizing February 9, 2022, as County Day in Kentucky.

2 WHEREAS, every state in the United States of America uses a form of county
3 government in some capacity; and

4 WHEREAS, in the days before the creation of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the
5 land that would become sovereign territory of the Commonwealth was part of Fincastle
6 County in Virginia, and, in 1776, George Rogers Clark oversaw the legislation creating
7 Kentucky County therefrom; and

8 WHEREAS, recognizing this genesis, the Commonwealth's very roots were steeped
9 in the county form of government; and

10 WHEREAS, for many years, counties performed a judicial capacity, as well as an
11 administrative capacity, establishing their utmost importance in the daily lives of their
12 residents in the nascent history of the Commonwealth of Kentucky; and

13 WHEREAS, after the passage of the Judicial Article in 1976, the judicial capacity
14 formerly resident with the county courts was assigned to the Circuit and District Courts,
15 and the county courts cast their focus on their fiscal and administrative duties for the
16 citizens of their counties; and

17 WHEREAS, the county serves as an interface between the citizens and the
18 Commonwealth, and as a point of contact for receiving revenues from the state and
19 federal government for capital projects as well as for other services which improve the
20 quality of life for the residents of the county; and

21 WHEREAS, county governments themselves provide inestimable services for their
22 citizens, such as preservation of the peace; protection of persons and property from fire
23 and other emergent and dangerous conditions; provision of potable water; collection and
24 treatment of waste; provision of roads and other transportation infrastructure; provision of
25 healthcare; protection of the population from criminals through the provision of houses of
26 detention; conservation, preservation, and protection of natural spaces, including the flora
27 and fauna therein; provision of utility services that are vital to the health and comfort of

1 the counties' residents; and promotion of health and recreation through programs and
2 facilities, including public parks, libraries, and museums; and

3 WHEREAS, each year, nationally, county governments' investment in water
4 systems, public facilities, broadband services, and transportation alone exceeds \$100
5 billion; and

6 WHEREAS, it shall be further noted that county governments own and maintain the
7 greatest amount of miles of roads which directly serve to enhance and sustain Kentucky's
8 economy and the citizens' vitality and security; and

9 WHEREAS, it must be emphasized that while the county governments provide
10 these services that promote the health, enjoyment, and well-being of the citizens of the
11 counties, the government itself is an abstraction that is dependent upon the county
12 officials and employees constituting that government form; and

13 WHEREAS, these officials and employees work for the county not only for a living,
14 but in a majority of instances, out of a sense of civic duty and a desire to promote the
15 prosperity, health, and well-being of the citizens of the county; and

16 WHEREAS, in recent times, facing challenges of a global pandemic and natural
17 disasters of an unprecedented scope, county officials and employees have risen to meet
18 these challenges, and have excelled in doing so; and

19 WHEREAS, in consideration of the inestimable serves provided at the county level,
20 it is fitting and proper to recognize counties, and their officials and employees, for their
21 service; and

22 WHEREAS, the Kentucky Association of Counties works tirelessly to promote the
23 welfare of county governments, and, in turn, the welfare of the citizens of those counties;

24 NOW, THEREFORE,

25 ***Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of***
26 ***Kentucky:***

27 ➔Section 1. The Senate recognizes February 9, 2022, as County Day in Kentucky

1 and commends the elected and appointed county officials, county employees and
2 volunteers on their civic-mindedness and willingness to serve in these vital roles in such
3 an excellent manner.

4 ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
5 Resolution to Senator Robby Mills for presentation to Boyle County Magistrate Phil
6 Sammons, President, and Jim Henderson, Executive Director, Kentucky Association of
7 Counties, 400 Englewood Drive, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.