

1           A RESOLUTION adjourning the Senate in honor and loving memory of Darryl  
2 Owens.

3           WHEREAS, Darryl Owens was born on November 10, 1937, and was a native son  
4 of Louisville, Kentucky; and

5           WHEREAS, Darryl Owens graduated from Central High School in Louisville, and  
6 went on to earn his Bachelor's degree from Central State University and his Juris  
7 Doctorate from Howard University Law School. He would later further his studies at the  
8 John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University; and

9           WHEREAS, Darryl Owens gave over 40 years of public service to the  
10 Commonwealth and his community. His career included more than 13 years of dedicated  
11 service in the Kentucky House of Representatives, during which he served as Chair of the  
12 Judiciary Committee, as well as being a mentor and beloved friend to his colleagues in  
13 the General Assembly, while also being a strong advocate for criminal justice reform,  
14 public education, and voting rights; and

15           WHEREAS, Darryl Owens joined the fight for civil rights in Louisville during the  
16 late 1960s and continued to be a fierce proponent of racial justice who worked on  
17 numerous fronts throughout Louisville and Kentucky to advance the rights of minorities  
18 and minority-owned businesses, as well as working with many groups to help those less  
19 fortunate; and

20           WHEREAS, Darryl Owens was a devoted civil rights leader throughout his entire  
21 life, serving as a NAACP President, and he broke barriers by becoming the first Black  
22 person to hold a countywide elected office in Jefferson County, as well as becoming the  
23 first Black elected official to join the Jefferson County Fiscal Court and becoming  
24 Kentucky's first Black assistant attorney general; and

25           WHEREAS, Darryl Owens was kind and gentle to those around him and made a  
26 lasting impact on the lives of his family, friends, colleagues, and many individuals  
27 throughout the Commonwealth who were touched by his kindness and good nature. He

1 will be remembered by many as a true statesman of the Commonwealth who had an  
2 enduring influence on the lives of so many individuals; and

3 WHEREAS, Darryl Owens passed away on Tuesday, January 4, 2022, and is  
4 survived by his beloved wife Brenda, and numerous family members by whom he was  
5 loved dearly;

6 NOW, THEREFORE,

7 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*  
8 *Kentucky:*

9 ➔Section 1. The members of the Senate hereby express their most profound  
10 sympathy upon the passing of Darryl Owens and posthumously thank him for his service  
11 in the General Assembly as well as his numerous contributions to civil rights and racial  
12 justice throughout the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

13 ➔Section 2. When the Senate adjourns on this day, it does so in honor and loving  
14 memory of Darryl Owens.

15 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this  
16 Resolution to Senator Gerald Neal for delivery.