

1 A RESOLUTION honoring Lieutenant Presley Neville O'Bannon and his legacy as
2 preserved by the O'Bannon House Preservation Foundation.

3 WHEREAS, in 1805, United States Marine Corps Lieutenant Presley Neville
4 O'Bannon was selected by President Thomas Jefferson to free 180 Americans held
5 captive for ransom in Tripoli by the Barbary Pirates; and

6 WHEREAS, Lieutenant O'Bannon led seven Marines, a midshipman, and a motley
7 rabble of more than 1,000 mercenaries across 600 miles of the Sahara desert to the
8 Tripolitan city of Derne where the battle ensued; and

9 WHEREAS, despite being greatly outnumbered, Lieutenant O'Bannon and his
10 Marines fought so bravely that they became legendary in song among our enemies; and

11 WHEREAS, Lieutenant O'Bannon personally hauled down the enemy flag and
12 hoisted the Stars and Stripes for the first time in battle on foreign soil; and

13 WHEREAS, following his military service, Lieutenant O'Bannon moved to
14 Kentucky and built his home. He was elected to the Kentucky General Assembly where
15 he represented Logan County with great distinction from 1812 until 1820 in the House of
16 Representatives and the Senate; and

17 WHEREAS, Lieutenant O'Bannon was a Marine and patriot of the highest caliber
18 who demonstrated exceptional leadership, bravery, skill, and determination under severe
19 conditions to ensure freedom, peace, and America's great national economic and military
20 status in the world; and

21 WHEREAS, the Logan County home Lieutenant O'Bannon purchased still stands in
22 Russellville, Kentucky, and is on the National and Kentucky Registry of Historic Places;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, the O'Bannon House Preservation Foundation was established to
25 preserve the hero's home in order to provide a venue to promote patriotism and our
26 history;

27 NOW, THEREFORE,

1 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*
2 *Kentucky:*

3 ➔Section 1. The Senate does hereby honor Lieutenant Presley Neville O'Bannon
4 and his legacy as preserved by the O'Bannon House Preservation Foundation.

5 ➔Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor of the "Hero
6 of Derne," Lieutenant Presley Neville O'Bannon, who first flew the American flag in
7 battle on foreign soil in 1805.

8 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
9 Resolution to Senator Mike Wilson for delivery.