

1           A RESOLUTION adjourning the Senate in honor and loving memory of Jack  
2 Baker.

3           WHEREAS, Jack Baker was a native son of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, born  
4 to the late Thomas and Nora Wicker Baker on November 15, 1919; and

5           WHEREAS, Jack Baker was the loving and beloved husband of the late Dora  
6 Bailey Baker, and the loving and beloved father of Patricia Collins, who survives him,  
7 and of James Ray Baker and Greta Sue Baker, who preceded him in death; and

8           WHEREAS, Jack Baker was also a loving and beloved brother, grandfather, and  
9 great-grandfather; and

10          WHEREAS, Jack Baker was a proud member of the El Hasa Shrine and the Olive  
11 Hill Masonic Lodge, wherein with the latter he had the distinction of being a 50-year  
12 member; and

13          WHEREAS, Jack Baker was a carpenter employed by Ruth Brothers Construction;  
14 and

15          WHEREAS, Jack Baker served his country proudly and with distinction in World  
16 War II in the First Army, which holds the honor of being the United States of America's  
17 oldest field army; and

18          WHEREAS, Jack Baker served in the European Theatre, landing in Normandy,  
19 France on D-Day on the beach code-named Omaha, facing withering German defenses,  
20 and he went on to work his way with his group through France in the Cherbourg Forest,  
21 St. Lo, and at the Falaise Gap; and

22          WHEREAS, Jack Baker was involved in the liberation of Paris; and

23          WHEREAS, Jack Baker, continuing from France to Germany, fought in the Battles  
24 of Aachen and Hurtgen Forest, and the infamous Battle of the Bulge; and

25          WHEREAS, Jack Baker's service to the United States was of such distinction that  
26 he was awarded five Bronze Stars, the World War II Victory Medal, the European-  
27 African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, the Army Good Conduct Medal, and the Army

1 Marksmanship Badge; and

2 WHEREAS, in 2017, Jack Baker was awarded membership into the French Legion  
3 of Honor for his service to liberate France; and

4 WHEREAS, Jack Baker, cherished son, husband, father, grandfather, great-  
5 grandfather, friend, and defender of liberty, departed this earthly life on May 7, 2021;

6 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

9 ➔Section 1. The Senate hereby expresses its most profound sympathy upon the  
10 passing of Jack Baker, and extends heartfelt condolences to his family, friends, and  
11 community in this time of loss.

12 ➔Section 2. The Senate recognizes that the extraordinary service of Jack Baker in  
13 World War II, and individuals like him, allow all citizens of the Commonwealth, these  
14 United States, and, indeed, the world, to enjoy ordinary moments bathed in the freedoms  
15 of self-determination, peace and security. Where once a carpenter, then warrior, Jack  
16 Baker took up arms at the request of his country to defend liberty, his own life subject to  
17 redemption in that effort, then laid his weapons down with the gratitude of a nation to  
18 once again take up the saw and the plane. These ordinary moments—moments spent with  
19 family, with friends, at work, at leisure—are themselves treasured above all, the worth of  
20 which is most poignantly realized when imperiled in times of war.

21 ➔Section 3. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor and loving  
22 memory of Jack Baker.

23 ➔Section 4. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this  
24 Resolution to Senator Robin Webb for delivery to the family of Jack Baker.