

1 A RESOLUTION decrying recent attacks on historically Black colleges and
2 universities, and supporting Kentucky State University and other historically Black
3 colleges and universities against hatred, intolerance, and violence.

4 WHEREAS, more than a dozen historically Black colleges and universities,
5 including Kentucky State University, have received bomb threats in recent days; and

6 WHEREAS, historically Black colleges and universities are defined by the Higher
7 Education Act of 1965 as historically Black colleges or universities established prior to
8 1964, whose principal mission was, and is, the education of Black Americans; and

9 WHEREAS, more than one hundred historically Black colleges and universities
10 have been identified by the United States Department of Education, including Kentucky
11 State University, in Frankfort, and Simmons College of Kentucky, in Louisville; and

12 WHEREAS, hundreds of thousands of students have graduated from historically
13 Black colleges and universities, making lasting contributions to this country; and

14 WHEREAS, historically Black colleges and universities confer nearly 50,000
15 degrees each year, representing almost 20% of African-American graduates; and

16 WHEREAS, America's historically Black colleges and universities educate an
17 increasingly diverse student body; and

18 WHEREAS, historically Black colleges and universities produce billions of dollars
19 of economic benefits to their communities; and

20 WHEREAS, Kentucky State University opened in 1887, and is Kentucky's second
21 oldest public university; and

22 WHEREAS, Kentucky State University has the most diverse student body in
23 Kentucky; and

24 WHEREAS, Kentucky State University graduates contribute more than \$30 million
25 per year to Kentucky's economy, and Kentucky State University has an annual economic
26 impact of more than \$130 million; and

27 WHEREAS, threats of violence against historically Black colleges and universities,

1 beginning on the first day of Black History Month, are racially motivated messages of
2 hate; and

3 WHEREAS, historically Black colleges and universities were created to bring
4 opportunities to all students; and

5 WHEREAS, we will not allow hatred to divide us, to diminish our spirit, or to
6 extinguish the opportunities Kentucky State University has represented for generations of
7 Kentuckians;

8 NOW, THEREFORE,

9 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*
10 *Kentucky:*

11 ➔Section 1. The Senate condemns, in the strongest possible terms, threats of
12 violence against historically Black colleges and universities, and calls for a complete and
13 thorough investigation of these nationwide terroristic threats.

14 ➔Section 2. The Senate stands with Kentucky State University against racially
15 motivated threats of violence, and expresses its sincere concern for the well-being of all
16 faculty, staff, and students of Kentucky State University in this difficult time.

17 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
18 Resolution to Senator Gerald Neal.