

1           A RESOLUTION honoring the members of the Kentucky National Guard, the  
2 Tennessee National Guard, and the West Virginia National Guard for their service to the  
3 citizens of eastern Kentucky during the flooding events during the summer of 2022.

4           WHEREAS, between July 25th and July 30th, 2022, eastern Kentucky and central  
5 Appalachia were subjected to deluges of rain from thunderstorm complexes which  
6 brought to the hardest-hit areas upwards of 14 to 16 inches of rain as indicated by radar  
7 estimates; and

8           WHEREAS, the highest totals of rain occurred in areas stretching from northern  
9 Clay and southern Owsley Counties, east through southern Breathitt and northern Leslie  
10 Counties, into Perry, Knott, and Letcher Counties; and

11           WHEREAS, notably, as a result of the torrential rainfall, the North Fork of the  
12 Kentucky River at Whitesburg rose above major flood stage, climbing to almost 21 feet  
13 before the flood gauge instrument failed, and the North Fork of the Kentucky River at  
14 Jackson crested at 43.47 feet, both setting unwanted records; and

15           WHEREAS, flood waters soon wrecked destruction in the path of the  
16 thunderstorms, and even in communities downstream; and

17           WHEREAS, once the scope of the destruction of the flooding was known, the  
18 Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia National Guards were immediately activated,  
19 and air crews began working nonstop with airlift operations delivering supplies and  
20 performing rescue operations; and

21           WHEREAS, members of the Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia National  
22 Guards performed with the utmost professionalism and valor, rescuing the citizens of  
23 eastern Kentucky from the perilous and raging floodwaters, delivering life-sustaining  
24 supplies, and performing mission-based logistical support, all the while placing their own  
25 lives in jeopardy; and

26           WHEREAS, during this flooding event, it is reported that more than 1,400  
27 Kentuckians have been rescued by first responders, including the efforts of the members

1 of the National Guard, and the Kentucky National Guard itself delivered more than  
2 17,000 pounds of supplies, even at the beginning of August; and

3 WHEREAS, it has been noted that some members of the Kentucky National Guard  
4 who reside in eastern Kentucky have honored their commitment to their fellow guard  
5 members and neighbors in the face of having suffered the destruction of their personal  
6 property; and

7 WHEREAS, the resilience and compassion of the people of eastern Kentucky have  
8 been demonstrated anecdotally again and again as they deflect help being offered to  
9 themselves and instead defer to the needs of their neighbors; and

10 WHEREAS, it is through this tremendous gift of service and self that we, as a  
11 people, show our greatest gifts of compassion and humanity;

12 NOW, THEREFORE,

13 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*  
14 *Kentucky:*

15 ➔Section 1. The Senate hereby honors the valorous members of the Kentucky  
16 National Guard, the Tennessee National Guard, and the West Virginia National Guard for  
17 their superlative and selfless efforts in rescuing and comforting the citizens of eastern  
18 Kentucky during the notorious flooding events during the summer of 2022. The Senate  
19 recognizes that these honorable members of the National Guard have served admirably  
20 and with great sacrifice, and lauds and holds forth this tremendous example as among the  
21 best endeavors for the preservation and advancement of humankind.

22 ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this  
23 Resolution to Major General Haldane B. Lamberton, The Adjutant General, Kentucky  
24 National Guard, 100 Minuteman Parkway, Frankfort, KY 40601 so that he may have this  
25 token of the people of Kentucky's gratitude, and may transmit it to the balance of the  
26 membership of the Kentucky National Guard and to his counterparts of the Tennessee  
27 National Guard and the West Virginia National Guard as he sees fit so to do.