

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION expressing support for the Jones Act and
2 commemorating its centennial anniversary.

3 WHEREAS, the Commonwealth's 1,600-mile-long network of navigable
4 waterways, including access to two of the nation's largest rivers, the Mississippi River
5 and the Ohio River, makes it a critical hub in the transportation system of the nation; and

6 WHEREAS, the current global pandemic has demonstrated the critical importance
7 of maintaining resilient domestic industries and transportation services to the citizens and
8 workforce of the Commonwealth; and

9 WHEREAS, the Merchant Marine Act of 1920, also known as the Jones Act and
10 codified in Title 46 of the United States Code, requires that vessels carrying cargo
11 between locations in the United States be owned by American companies, crewed by
12 American mariners, and built in American shipyards; and

13 WHEREAS, the United States' ability to project and deploy forces globally, and
14 supply and maintain military installations domestically, depends on the civilian fleet of
15 the Jones Act vessels and mariners; and

16 WHEREAS, mariners aboard Jones Act vessels strengthen homeland security as
17 added eyes and ears monitoring the nation's 95,000 miles of shoreline and 25,000 miles
18 of navigable inland waterways; and

19 WHEREAS, the Commonwealth is home to 20,730 maritime jobs supported by the
20 Jones Act, the fifth-highest per capita among all states, that generate \$1.25 billion in
21 income for workers; and

22 WHEREAS, maritime industry jobs create ladders of opportunity through high-
23 paying jobs and careers that offer significant advancement without generally
24 necessitating advanced formal education and extensive student loans; and

25 WHEREAS, the more than 40,000-vessel-strong Jones Act fleet supports nearly
26 650,000 high-paying jobs and over \$154 billion in economic output nationally, and \$5.1
27 billion to the economy of the Commonwealth;

1 NOW, THEREFORE,
2 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the*
3 *Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Senate concurring therein:*

4 ➔Section 1. The General Assembly affirms its support for the Jones Act and
5 celebrates its centennial anniversary.

6 ➔Section 2. The General Assembly encourages the United States Congress to
7 maintain the provisions of the Jones Act which have fostered a strong domestic maritime
8 industry that is critical to the Commonwealth's and the nation's economic prosperity and
9 national security.

10 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a
11 copy of this Resolution to the members of Kentucky's Congressional Delegation.