

1 A RESOLUTION adjourning the Senate in honor of Wendell Berry.

2 WHEREAS, Wendell Berry was born in Henry County, Kentucky, on August 5,
3 1934. The son of a lawyer and tobacco farmer, Wendell Berry has excelled as an
4 educator, novelist, poet, essayist, farmer, and activist; and

5 WHEREAS, Wendell Berry was educated in the Henry County Public Schools and
6 went to high school at Millersburg Military Institute. He attended the University of
7 Kentucky and earned a bachelor's degree in 1956 and a master's degree in 1957. Wendell
8 Berry received a Wallace Stegner Fellowship from Stanford University in 1958; and

9 WHEREAS, in 1957, Wendell Berry married Tanya Amyx and they raised two
10 children on their farm in Henry County. For over 50 years, the couple continue to live on
11 the farm. Their children have married and carry on the family farming tradition by
12 establishing homesteads in Trimble and Henry counties; and

13 WHEREAS, Wendell Berry taught at Stanford University, Georgetown College,
14 New York University, the University of Cincinnati, Bucknell University, and the
15 University of Kentucky. As a professor, Mr. Berry used the opportunity to contribute to
16 the academic community while teaching students vital skills and supporting them to reach
17 their potential; and

18 WHEREAS, Wendell Berry is a renowned published author across many genres.
19 He has written over 60 fiction and nonfiction novels, collections of essays, collections of
20 poetry, and collections of short stories. Through writing, Wendell Berry has addressed
21 issues relating to the environment, race, and economy. In 2018, Library of America
22 published editions of his writing: a fiction volume with his Port William series from the
23 Civil War to World War II, followed by a two-volume edition of his essays, 1969 – 1992,
24 and 1993 – 2017. Library of America has announced plans to publish another volume of
25 fiction and a volume of poetry. In 2022, Mr. Berry published two books: *The Need to Be*
26 *Whole: Patriotism and the History of Prejudice* and *How it Went: Thirteen More Stories*
27 *of the Port William Membership*; and

1 WHEREAS, Wendell Berry has been the recipient of numerous awards and honors
2 for his literary works and humanitarian efforts. Some of the more notable ones include a
3 Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship (1962), the Vachel Lindsay Prize for Poetry (1962),
4 a Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship (1965), a National Institute of Arts and Letters
5 award for writing (1971), the Emily Clark Balch Prize from *The Virginia Quarterly*
6 *Review* (1974), the American Academy of Arts and Letters Jean Stein Award (1987), a
7 Lannan Foundation Award for Non-Fiction (1989), membership in the Fellowship of
8 Southern Writers (1991), the Ingersoll Foundation's T. S. Elliot Award (1994), the John
9 Hay Award (1997), the Lyndhurst Prize (1997), the Aitken-Taylor Award for Poetry from
10 *The Sewanee Review* (1998), the National Humanities Medal (2010), and the Richard C.
11 Holbrooke Distinguished Achievement Award of the Dayton Literary Peace Prize (2013).
12 Mr. Berry was awarded the Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Award – the Freedom
13 Medal (2013), the Ivan Sandrof Lifetime Achievement Award by the National Books
14 Critics Circle (2016), the Henry Hope Reed Award from the University of Notre Dame
15 School of Architecture (2022), and the Franklin Founder Award from the Franklin
16 Celebration Committee (2022); and

17 WHEREAS, in 2012, Mr. Berry was chosen to give the National Endowment for
18 the Humanities Jefferson Lecture at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. In 2015,
19 Mr. Berry was inducted into the Kentucky Writers Hall of Fame; and

20 WHEREAS, Wendell Berry continues to work, writing about good agriculture,
21 family farms, the importance of nature, small rural communities, and peaceableness. Mr.
22 Berry believes that properly scaled farming is essential to healthy local economies, and
23 that strong local economies are essential to our survival and the wellbeing of the country
24 and the earth; and

25 WHEREAS, Wendell Berry's work advocating for small farmers and land-
26 conserving communities continues at The Berry Center in New Castle, Kentucky;

27 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

3 ➡Section 1. The members of the Senate recognize the literary and humanitarian
4 achievements of Wendell Berry and his service to Kentucky and the United States of
5 America.

6 ➡Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor of Wendell
7 Berry.

8 ➡Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
9 Resolution to Senator John Schickel for delivery to Wendell Berry.