

1 A RESOLUTION adjourning the Senate in honor and loving memory of Ella
2 Williams Smith.

3 WHEREAS, Ella Williams Smith was born on September 17, 1946, in Lexington,
4 Kentucky, to Thomas Williams and Viola Williams White; and

5 WHEREAS, Ella Williams Smith was a devoted member of the St. Paul A.M.E.
6 Church, beginning her faith journey at a young age with continued active involvement
7 throughout her life. She served the church community in many roles ranging from pianist,
8 trustee, Chairperson of Finance, President of the Kentucky Conference Missionary, Ross
9 Greenfield Missionary Society, choir member, and Sunday school teacher; and

10 WHEREAS, Ella Williams Smith graduated high school from Paul Laurence
11 Dunbar High School in 1964. As a first-generation college graduate, in 1970 she earned
12 an associate in nursing from Kentucky State College; and

13 WHEREAS, Ella Williams Smith excelled in her academic pursuits; she earned a
14 Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Eastern Kentucky University in 1976. Building
15 upon her practical clinical experience and leadership roles as a registered nurse, in 1986,
16 she earned her Masters of Public Affairs from Kentucky State University; and

17 WHEREAS, Ella Williams Smith served the community as a registered nurse at
18 Good Samaritan hospital for three years, and for 33 years at the Veterans Administration
19 Hospital. During her 36-year nursing career, she held many roles such as Nurse Manager,
20 Unit outpatient coordinator, and discharge program planner; and

21 WHEREAS, Ella Williams Smith was a charter member of the Zeta Phi Chapter of
22 the Chi Eta Phi Sorority, a professional organization of registered nurses promoting
23 health communities through advocacy, collaboration, education, leadership, research, and
24 service. Ella Smith served as the first vice-president of the local Chi Eta Phi chapter, and
25 subsequently she was elected to the role of president; and

26 WHEREAS, Ella Williams Smith demonstrated a heart of service inside and outside
27 of the hospital. She was a volunteer to many community organizations for over 46 years.

1 She had a unique ability to build rapport with individuals from all ages and backgrounds.

2 She was fondly referred to as "Ella Jean" by her peers and "Ms. Ella" by the youth; and

3 WHEREAS, Ella Williams Smith departed this earthly life on February 25, 2023;

4 and

5 WHEREAS, Ella Williams Smith was a cherished pillar of the community, and her

6 absence is felt and memory cherished by her loved ones;

7 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

9 *Kentucky:*

10 ➔Section 1. The Senate hereby extends its most profound sympathy upon the
11 passing of Ella Williams Smith and expresses heartfelt condolences to her family.

12 ➔Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor and loving
13 memory of Ella Williams Smith.

14 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this
15 Resolution to Senator Reginald Thomas for delivery to her family.