

1 A RESOLUTION commemorating and honoring the life of Robert Ross "Jeff"
2 Jefferson.

3 WHEREAS, Robert Ross "Jeff" Jefferson was born on September 21, 1932, in
4 Lexington, Kentucky, to Martha Sandusky Ross and Frank Ross; and

5 WHEREAS, upon graduating from Dunbar High School, Jeff Jefferson enlisted in
6 the United States Air Force, where he honorably served his country during the Korean
7 War; and

8 WHEREAS, Jeff Jefferson was the first African American on flying status with the
9 5th Bombardment Squadron, 9th Reconnaissance Wing of the United States Air Force,
10 and followed his active service with 15 more years in the United States Air Force
11 Reserves; and

12 WHEREAS, Jeff Jefferson graduated from Kentucky State University, where he
13 earned a bachelor's degree in history and political science and a master's degree in public
14 affairs, and served as a career employee for the Federal Bureau of Prisons; and

15 WHEREAS, Jeff Jefferson was elected as councilmember for the Lexington-Fayette
16 Urban County Government, proudly representing the 2nd District for 13 years and
17 serving as chair of the Budget and Finance Committee; and

18 WHEREAS, Jeff Jefferson was the first Kentuckian to serve as a member of the
19 board of directors and advisory council for the National League of Cities; and

20 WHEREAS, Jeff Jefferson was a civil rights leader and pillar of his community,
21 contributing to the founding of the Kentucky Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials
22 and serving as a member of multiple other civic and community organizations; and

23 WHEREAS, Jeff Jefferson was a loyal member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity for
24 over 65 years, serving as the fraternity's 5th District Representative, and receiving the
25 Legacy of Life Award, the Community Service Award, and the 5th District Citizen of the
26 Year Award; and

27 WHEREAS, Jeff Jefferson departed this earthly life on December 16, 2022; and

1 WHEREAS, Jeff Jefferson was preceded in death by his late wife, Katie Elizabeth
2 Scott Jefferson; his son, Robert R. Jefferson Jr; his sister, Audrey Louise Grevious, and
3 his beloved mother; and

4 WHEREAS, Robert Ross Jefferson is survived by his son, Stanley Bruce (June)
5 Jefferson; his daughter in-law, Anita (bobby) Jefferson; six grandchildren, Robert
6 Jefferson III, Stanley Jefferson II, Elizabeth Jefferson, Camille Jefferson, Leondra
7 Knight, and Kimberly Peter; seven great-grandchildren, Antwan Penman, Jasmyn Smith,
8 Dominique Smith, Maliyah Smith, Isaiah Hayes, Jemaya Knight, and Royal Peter; and all
9 whom he cherished; and

10 WHEREAS, Jeff Jefferson's contributions to his community and to the
11 Commonwealth leave both a legacy and a void;

12 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

15 ➔Section 1. The members of the Senate hereby express their most profound
16 sympathy upon the passing of Robert Ross "Jeff" Jefferson.

17 ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
18 Resolution to Senator Reginald Thomas for delivery to the family.