

1           A JOINT RESOLUTION authorizing the release of general funds to the Forest  
2 Stewardship Incentives Fund and making an appropriation therefor.

3           WHEREAS, the students at Lloyd Memorial High School in Erlanger, Kentucky,  
4 are concerned with the depletion of natural resources in their community, specifically the  
5 trees and woods, due to commercial construction; and

6           WHEREAS, the same students value their community and want to see reforestation  
7 efforts to replant trees to make up for the trees that have been removed from their  
8 community and throughout the Commonwealth; and

9           WHEREAS, trees provide many benefits to everyone in the Commonwealth,  
10 including reducing stress, improving children's education, and providing emotional  
11 support as memorials and commemorative symbols; and

12           WHEREAS, communities benefit from trees by reducing noise from busy  
13 highways, complementing and beautifying architectural designs, and improving traffic  
14 and roadway designs; and

15           WHEREAS, planting trees offers many environmental benefits, such as reducing  
16 urban heat, improving the quality of air, and reducing storm water runoff, which reduces  
17 erosion and pollution; and

18           WHEREAS, trees provide many economic benefits, including reducing cooling  
19 costs for homes in warm months, reducing heating costs by protecting homes with  
20 windbreak in the winter months, and decreasing demand on utility infrastructure, which  
21 may reduce operating costs for utility companies; and

22           WHEREAS, under the leadership of Dr. Mike Key, the Lloyd Memorial High  
23 School Leadership Around the World class brought the issue of reforestation to the  
24 attention of the General Assembly; and

25           WHEREAS, the General Assembly recognizes the need to provide for reforestation  
26 and forest improvement;

27           NOW, THEREFORE,

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

2       ➔Section 1. There is hereby appropriated General Fund moneys in the amount of  
3 \$100,000 in fiscal year 2024-2025 to the Division of Forestry's Forest Stewardship  
4 Incentives Fund established in KRS 149.340 to purchase saplings to be planted by  
5 volunteer groups as approved by the division.