

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION establishing the Foster Care and Adoption
2 Efficiency Task Force.

3 WHEREAS, in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, there are approximately 8,000
4 children in out-of-home care, of which around 4,000 are teenagers; and

5 WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Kentucky has grandparents, other relatives, and
6 fictive kin stepping up to care for children when their parents cannot care for them due to
7 abuse, neglect, dependency, death, deployment, or parental incarceration; and

8 WHEREAS, when children age out of foster care, they often lack the financial
9 stability and social support to deal with barriers that can prevent them from finding and
10 maintaining shelter; and

11 WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Kentucky has a child maltreatment rate of 12.3
12 per 1,000 children, while the national rate is 7.7 per 1,000 children; and

13 WHEREAS, residential housing is full, as there are more foster youth awaiting
14 placements than foster parents willing to take in children;

15 NOW, THEREFORE,

16 ***Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of***
17 ***Kentucky, the House of Representatives concurring therein:***

18 ➔Section 1. The Legislative Research Commission is hereby directed to establish
19 the Foster Care and Adoption Efficiency Task Force to examine the foster care system,
20 evaluate timeframes and guidelines once a child comes into state custody, review barriers
21 to foster care homes, and review funding to foster care placements.

22 ➔Section 2. The Foster Care and Adoption Efficiency Task Force shall be
23 composed of the following members, with final membership of the task force being
24 subject to the consideration and approval of the Legislative Research Commission:

25 (1) Three members of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the
26 Speaker of the House, one of whom shall be designated to serve as co-chair;

27 (2) Three members of the Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate,

1 one of whom shall be designated to serve as co-chair;

2 (3) One member of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Minority
3 Floor Leader of the House; and

4 (4) One member of the Senate to be appointed by the Minority Floor Leader of
5 the Senate.

6 ➔Section 3. The Foster Care and Adoption Efficiency Task Force shall meet
7 monthly during the 2024 Interim of the General Assembly and shall submit findings and
8 recommendations to the Legislative Research Commission for referral to the Interim
9 Joint Committee on Families and Children by December 1, 2024.

10 ➔Section 4. Provisions of this Concurrent Resolution to the contrary
11 notwithstanding, the Legislative Research Commission shall have the authority to
12 alternatively assign the issues identified herein to an interim joint committee or
13 subcommittee thereof, and to designate a study completion date.