

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION directing the establishment of the Homestead Exemption
2 Task Force.

3 WHEREAS, Section 170 of the Kentucky Constitution provides a property tax
4 exemption for certain homeowners who are at least 65 years of age or classified as totally
5 disabled; and

6 WHEREAS, when the homestead exemption was created in 1972, the amount of the
7 homestead exemption was equal to a greater percentage of an average home's value than
8 it is today; and

9 WHEREAS, while the homestead exemption amount is adjusted every two years
10 based on the United States Department of Labor's cost of living index, the
11 Commonwealth has recently experienced inflationary times that have exacerbated
12 housing insecurity for our most vulnerable. Seniors and disabled individuals are
13 specifically affected by increased housing costs due to their typically fixed incomes; and

14 WHEREAS, seniors and disabled individuals make up 53 percent of the extremely
15 low-income renter households in the Commonwealth as reported by the National Low-
16 Income Housing Coalition; and

17 WHEREAS, one in eight veterans are fully disabled and may be directly affected by
18 the homestead exemption. The homestead exemption allows seniors and disabled
19 individuals to maintain a permanent residence in the Commonwealth, fulfilling our
20 Commonwealth's commitment to our elders and those who have served our great country;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, the Commonwealth must evaluate the current effectiveness of the
23 homestead exemption to ensure it is fulfilling its intended goals;

24 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

26 ➔Section 1. The Legislative Research Commission shall establish the Homestead
27 Exemption Task Force. The task force shall study, review, and make recommendations

1 regarding the expansion of the homestead exemption. The duties of the task force shall
2 include but are not limited to:

3 (1) Reviewing the constitutional and statutory provisions of the homestead
4 exemption provided in Section 170 of the Kentucky Constitution and KRS Chapter 132,
5 including but not limited to the administrative policies, application processes, and
6 computation methods of the homestead exemption;

7 (2) Conducting a demographic analysis of housing needs for seniors and disabled
8 individuals and evaluating if the homestead exemption is adequate in helping those
9 citizens meet their housing needs;

10 (3) Analyzing inflation and home values in comparison to the growth of the
11 homestead exemption amount since inception;

12 (4) Reviewing homestead exemptions, circuit breaker programs, and other similar
13 property tax exemptions offered in other states; and

14 (5) Discussing any other topics as determined by the task force in relation to the
15 homestead exemption.

16 ➔Section 2. (1) The task force shall be composed of the following members,
17 with final membership of the task force being subject to the consideration and approval of
18 the Legislative Research Commission:

19 (a) Three members of the Senate, two to be appointed by the President of the
20 Senate and one to be appointed by the Minority Floor Leader of the Senate;

21 (b) Three members of the House of Representatives, two to be appointed by the
22 Speaker of the House and one to be appointed by the Minority Floor Leader of the House;

23 (c) The Kentucky Department of Revenue executive director for the Office of
24 Property Valuation or a designee;

25 (d) The commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs or a
26 designee;

27 (e) The executive director of the Kentucky Housing Corporation or a designee;

1 (f) The president of the Kentucky Property Valuation Administrators Association
2 or a designee;

3 (g) The president of the Kentucky Association of Realtors or a designee;

4 (h) The commissioner of the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government's
5 Department of Housing Advocacy and Community Development or a designee; and

6 (i) The executive director of the Louisville Metro Housing Authority or a
7 designee.

8 (2) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall each appoint
9 one co-chair of the task force from among that chamber's members appointed to the task
10 force.

11 ➔Section 3. The task force shall meet at least monthly during the 2024 Interim of
12 the General Assembly. The task force shall submit its findings and recommendations to
13 the Legislative Research Commission for referral to the appropriate committee or
14 committees by December 1, 2024.

15 ➔Section 4. The executive branch of government shall promptly provide
16 necessary staff, data, research, information, and other requested support to assist the task
17 force in the performance of its duties. Any person designated to serve as an executive
18 branch task force member shall possess experience and expertise in the designated
19 agency's operations and subject matter that is relevant to the duties of the task force.

20 ➔Section 5. Provisions of this Resolution to the contrary notwithstanding, the
21 Legislative Research Commission shall have the authority to alternatively assign the
22 issues identified herein to an interim joint committee or subcommittee thereof and to
23 designate a study completion date.