

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION establishing the Make America Healthy Again
2 Kentucky Task Force to explore ways to integrate the principles of the Make America
3 Healthy Again movement to improve health outcomes of Kentuckians.

4 WHEREAS, improving public health and reducing the prevalence of chronic
5 diseases are critical to the health and well-being of Kentucky citizens and to the state's
6 prosperity; and

7 WHEREAS, the Make America Healthy Again (MAHA) movement promotes
8 health freedom by allowing individuals to make informed choices about their health care;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, the MAHA movement supports reducing the prevalence of chronic
11 diseases by improving lifestyle and dietary choices; and

12 WHEREAS, there is evidence that poor diet and lack of exercise contribute to the
13 high rates of chronic diseases in Kentucky; and

14 WHEREAS, approximately 74 percent of adults in the United States are overweight
15 or obese; and

16 WHEREAS, Kentucky has one of the highest adult obesity rates compared to other
17 states, with approximately 30 percent of adults classified as obese; and

18 WHEREAS, Kentucky has a childhood obesity rate of approximately 20 percent for
19 children between the ages of 10 and 17 years old; and

20 WHEREAS, in 2022, the leading cause of death in Kentucky was heart disease,
21 with an age-adjusted death rate of 216.3 per 100,000 residents, 23.3 percent higher than
22 the national average; and

23 WHEREAS, the MAHA movement advocates for increasing public access to
24 nutritious and unprocessed foods to promote a diet that supports good health; and

25 WHEREAS, the MAHA movement advocates for minimizing population exposure
26 to environmental toxins and pollutants that contribute to respiratory diseases, heart
27 disease, and other chronic conditions; and

1 WHEREAS, the MAHA movement calls for transparent, science-based health
2 policies and recommendations that are in the best interest of the public and are free from
3 undue corporate influence;

4 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

7 ➔Section 1. The General Assembly supports the goals of the Make America
8 Healthy Again movement, and in doing so:

9 (1) Supports policies that increase access to clean, whole foods across Kentucky
10 to enhance nutrition and reduce diet-related diseases;

11 (2) Encourages access to local, fresh produce in schools, communities, and
12 markets through initiatives like farmers' markets and farm-to-school programs;

13 (3) Encourages public health efforts to educate Kentuckians on healthy living,
14 good nutrition, and chronic disease prevention;

15 (4) Urges state and local health agencies to collaborate with schools and
16 community organizations to expand public health programs that focus on empowering
17 individuals and families with knowledge on how to manage their own health through
18 good nutrition, regular physical activity, and avoidance of harmful substances;

19 (5) Urges legislative and regulatory updates to align agricultural and health
20 policies, including:

21 (a) Creating incentives for the production and consumption of nutritious foods in
22 Kentucky;

23 (b) Encouraging Kentuckians to make healthy food choices, including reducing
24 reliance on highly processed, high-sugar products, through education and policy
25 incentives; and

26 (c) Addressing environmental health risks to improve overall public health
27 outcomes;

1 (6) Recognizes the role of immunity as a factor in public health policy alongside
2 other preventive measures; and

3 (7) Encourages state health officials to consider evidence of immunity from prior
4 illness as part of broader health guidelines and emergency response plans.

5 ➔Section 2. (1) The Legislative Research Commission shall establish the
6 Make America Healthy Again Kentucky Task Force.

7 (2) The duties of the task force shall include but are not limited to:

8 (a) Exploring ways that Kentucky can integrate the MAHA movement principles
9 into state laws, policies, and programs to improve the overall health of Kentuckians; and

10 (b) Reviewing strategies that Kentucky may use to improve health outcomes
11 through:

12 1. Encouraging dietary and lifestyle changes;

13 2. Expanding public awareness efforts on healthy nutrition and lifestyles;

14 3. Reducing public exposure to environmental toxins; and

15 4. Increasing public awareness and input into state health policies.

16 ➔Section 3. The Make America Healthy Again Kentucky Task Force shall be
17 composed of the following members with final membership of the task force being
18 subject to the consideration and approval of the Legislative Research Commission:

19 (1) Three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of
20 the House of Representatives, one of whom shall be designated by the Speaker of the
21 House of Representatives as a co-chair of the task force;

22 (2) Three members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, one of
23 whom shall be designated by the President of the Senate as a co-chair of the task force;

24 (3) The secretary of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, or designee, who
25 shall serve as chair of the task force;

26 (4) The commissioner for the Kentucky Department for Public Health, or
27 designee;

- 1 (5) The commissioner of the Department for Community Based Services;
- 2 (6) The commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, or designee;
- 3 (7) The commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Education, or designee;
- 4 and
- 5 (8) The chair of the Kentucky Board of Licensure and Certification for Dietitians
- 6 and Nutritionists, or designee.

7 ➔Section 4. The Make America Healthy Again Kentucky Task Force shall at a

8 minimum meet monthly during the 2025 Interim of the General Assembly and shall

9 submit recommendations to the Governor and to the Legislative Research Commission

10 for referral to the Interim Joint Committee on Health Services by December 1, 2025.

11 ➔Section 5. Provisions of this section to the contrary notwithstanding, the

12 Legislative Research Commission shall have the authority to alternatively assign the

13 issues identified herein to an interim joint committee or subcommittee thereof, and to

14 designate a study completion date.

15 ➔Section 6. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a

16 copy of this Resolution to the Governor, each member of Kentucky's Congressional

17 delegation, and the secretary of Cabinet for Health and Family Services, the

18 Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, and the commissioner of the

19 Kentucky Department of Education, for review and consideration in advancing the goals

20 of the Make America Healthy Again movement to make Kentucky healthy again.