

1           A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION recognizing America's River Roots Festival as  
2 an official 250th celebration event for the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

3           WHEREAS, the Ohio River Valley has played a pivotal role in shaping the history  
4 and development of our nation, serving as a gateway for exploration, commerce, and  
5 cultural exchange; and

6           WHEREAS, Kentucky's river communities have long been integral to the state's  
7 history and economic growth; and

8           WHEREAS, America celebrates the sescentennial anniversary of the United  
9 States Declaration of Independence from May 2025 through July 2026; and

10          WHEREAS, America's River Roots Festival was established by a dedicated  
11 coalition of community leaders, historians, and sponsors to honor the rich traditions and  
12 enduring legacy of the Ohio River Valley's national impact; and

13          WHEREAS, deeply influenced by the rhythms of river life, Kentucky's musical  
14 heritage includes bluegrass, folk, country, river blues, and gospel music traditions that  
15 have shaped American music and will be prominently featured in America's River Roots  
16 Festival celebrations; and

17          WHEREAS, the Commonwealth's rich culinary traditions, which continue today,  
18 reflect the agricultural and cultural influences of river communities and will be  
19 showcased as a part of America's River Roots Festival; and

20          WHEREAS, deeply intertwined with the state's river heritage, Kentucky's bourbon  
21 industry has long relied on waterways for transportation and commerce, solidifying its  
22 place as a signature industry of the Commonwealth and a cultural symbol of American  
23 craftsmanship; and

24          WHEREAS, America's River Roots Festival will celebrate the diverse cultural  
25 heritage of Kentucky's river communities, recognizing the movements and impact of  
26 communities who have shaped the state's national identity; and

27          WHEREAS, America's River Roots Festival will take place from October 8 through

1 October 12, 2025, in the Northern Kentucky and Greater Cincinnati region, specifically  
2 celebrating the culture, cuisine, music, and riverboats of the ports of Covington, Newport,  
3 and Cincinnati; and

4 WHEREAS, officially recognizing America's River Roots Festival will not only  
5 celebrate Kentucky's heritage, but also will promote tourism, workforce attraction,  
6 workforce retention, economic growth for local businesses, and highlight the  
7 Commonwealth as a premier destination for cultural and historical experiences;

8 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

11 ➔Section 1. The General Assembly urges the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet  
12 to designate America's River Roots Festival as an official 250th celebration event for the  
13 Commonwealth of Kentucky.

14 ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this  
15 Resolution to the secretary of the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet.