

1 A RESOLUTION adjourning the Senate in honor and loving memory of Dr. James
2 Votruba.

3 WHEREAS, Dr. James Votruba was a visionary and compassionate leader, mentor,
4 and steward of northern Kentucky; and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. James Votruba was the fourth and longest-serving president of
6 Northern Kentucky University, serving from 1997 to 2012. During his tenure, he
7 shepherded the growth of the university through enrollment increases, the addition of
8 colleges and post-baccalaureate programs, major construction projects, and preparations
9 for reclassification as a National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I institution for
10 athletics; and

11 WHEREAS, Dr. James Votruba firmly believed in and fostered the role of Northern
12 Kentucky University as a student-centered institution focused on advancing regional
13 economic, social, and civic progress in the northern Kentucky and greater Cincinnati
14 communities; and

15 WHEREAS, beyond his work with Northern Kentucky University, Dr. James
16 Votruba spent time on boards and groups to improve and serve his community, including
17 but not limited to EducateNKY, the St. Elizabeth Healthcare Board of Trustees, the Ohio
18 National Mutual Holding Company, Inc. board of directors, the Northern Kentucky
19 Kindergarten Readiness Task Force, the Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence,
20 and LINK nky; and

21 WHEREAS, Dr. James Votruba led others with energy, vision, and an innate ability
22 to connect with others and make them feel the importance of their efforts and work; and

23 WHEREAS, Dr. James Votruba was considered a beacon, a mentor, and a role
24 model for many people across northern Kentucky and beyond; and

25 WHEREAS, Dr. James Votruba passed away on March 19, 2025, surrounded by
26 family; and

27 WHEREAS, Dr. James Votruba was preceded in death by his parents, Francis and

1 Elizabeth Votruba; sister, Mary Lou Votruba; son, James Christopher Votruba; and
2 granddaughter, Eva Votruba-Porter; and

3 WHEREAS, Dr. James Votruba is survived by his loving wife, Rachel (née Turner)
4 Votruba; daughters, Elizabeth (Peter) Votruba-Drzal and Emily (Mark Dawson) Votruba;
5 and five grandchildren, James and Thomas Votruba-Drzal, Dominic Porter, and Nicholas
6 and Anthony Votruba;

7 NOW, THEREFORE,

8 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*
9 *Kentucky:*

10 ➔Section 1. The Senate does hereby express its most profound sympathy upon
11 the passing of Dr. James Votruba.

12 ➔Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor and loving
13 memory of Dr. James Votruba.

14 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
15 Resolution to Senator Shelley Funke Frommeyer for delivery to the family.