

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION condemning all forms of political violence and
2 supporting freedom in the Commonwealth.

3 WHEREAS, democracy and the fundamental values of the Commonwealth of
4 Kentucky depend upon the peaceful contest of ideas, not upon the use of intimidation or
5 violence, or in the hatred of fellow citizens; and

6 WHEREAS, the use of rhetoric that dehumanizes, demonizes, or uses specious
7 allegations against any individual or group based on their race, religion, identity, or
8 political beliefs has been demonstrated to create a climate where violence becomes
9 statistically predictable; and

10 WHEREAS, threats against elected officials, candidates, and public figures erode
11 the safety of individuals who serve the public, the trust of individuals reliant upon the
12 government, and the integrity of democratic institutions; and

13 WHEREAS, the General Assembly recognizes the concerning rise in political
14 violence, threats against religious and cultural institutions, and all forms of ideological
15 hatred across the nation and within its borders, which is often driven by the mass
16 dissemination of hateful, divisive, and false narratives; and

17 WHEREAS, this rhetoric, whether it is spread through social media, traditional
18 media, or other public platforms, strikes at the heart of representative democracy and
19 chills civic engagement for all Kentuckians;

20 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

23 ➔Section 1. The members of the General Assembly explicitly and unequivocally
24 condemn the use of rhetoric that dehumanizes, demonizes, or encourages hatred and
25 violence against any individual or a group of individuals based on their political ideology,
26 religious faith, cultural practices, or ethnic origin, and reaffirm the commitment to
27 protecting freedom for all Kentuckians.

1 ➔Section 2. The members of the General Assembly affirm that all political and
2 ideological disputes must be resolved through lawful, peaceful, and democratic means,
3 and commit to fostering a culture of civil discourse, tolerance, and mutual respect in the
4 Commonwealth.