

1       A JOINT RESOLUTION directing the Governor to establish a sister city/state  
2 partnership between the Commonwealth of Kentucky and the Shomron Regional Council  
3 of Israel.

4       WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Kentucky maintains an enduring commitment  
5 to uphold the values of faith, family, and community as the cornerstone upon which free  
6 and flourishing societies are built; and

7       WHEREAS, the people of Kentucky have demonstrated resilience across  
8 generations, preserving their heritage and way of life through adversity and reaffirming  
9 their love of the land by remaining rooted in the communities that connect them  
10 physically and spiritually to their history; and

11       WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Kentucky is a beautiful patchwork of thriving  
12 communities, composed of diverse cultures and backgrounds that can peacefully coexist  
13 with the shared purpose of building a strong foundation for present and future  
14 generations; and

15       WHEREAS, Shomron, known in scripture and throughout history as Samaria, lies  
16 in the biblical heartland of Israel – the mountains walked by the patriarchs, prophets, and  
17 kings of ancient Israel – and stands as a living testimony to the continuity of the Jewish  
18 people upon their ancestral land; and

19       WHEREAS, Kentucky shares a strong historic commitment to their faith that is  
20 demonstrated across the state in the naming of towns with direct biblical roots. The city  
21 of Lebanon, Kentucky, attributes its name to the cedars of Israel that constructed the  
22 Jerusalem Temple; Mount Olivet, Kentucky, is named in reference to the Mount of  
23 Olives from the book of Zechariah; and shared names from Samaria can be found in the  
24 towns of Hebron and Salem, Kentucky; and

25       WHEREAS, the economic vitality of the Shomron region is a testament to the  
26 enduring spirit of its people, who preserve ancient traditions while cultivating modern  
27 enterprise, innovation, agriculture, and industry, thereby transforming historic ground

1 into a flourishing center of growth and opportunity; and

2        WHEREAS, the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and the  
3 Shomron Regional Council of Israel share common ideals in their commitment to liberty,  
4 self-governance, the preservation of cultural heritage, and the fostering of economic  
5 vitality for the benefit of their citizens; and

6        WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Kentucky supports the ability of the people of  
7 Shomron to govern themselves in freedom and security upon their historic homeland; and

8        WHEREAS, the members of the General Assembly support the establishment of an  
9 agreement between the Commonwealth of Kentucky and the Shomron Regional Council  
10 to recognize the deep connection between the two lands and encourage the exchange of  
11 ideas, commerce, culture, and innovation;

12        NOW, THEREFORE,

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

14        ➔Section 1. The members of the General Assembly commend the people of the  
15 Shomron Regional Council of Israel for their continued resilience and commitment to  
16 preserving their unique heritage and history in the face of adversity.

17        ➔Section 2. The Governor is directed to establish a sister city/state partnership by  
18 memorandum of understanding with the Shomron Regional Council to formally  
19 recognize the mutual contributions and potential exchange between the two regions.

20        ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to deliver a  
21 copy of this Resolution to Governor Andy Beshear, 703 Capital Avenue, Room 133,  
22 Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.