

1 A RESOLUTION recognizing January 2026 as Kentucky Mentorship Month.

2 WHEREAS, the goals of Kentucky mentorship month are to raise awareness of and
3 celebrate the powerful impact of mentoring relationships, recruit new mentors, and
4 encourage institutions to integrate quality mentoring into their policies, practices, and
5 programs; and

6 WHEREAS, quality mentoring fosters positive life and social skills, promotes self-
7 esteem, bolsters academic achievement and college access, supports career exploration,
8 and nurtures youth leadership development; and

9 WHEREAS, mentoring happens in many settings, including community-based
10 programs, elementary and secondary schools, colleges, government agencies, religious
11 institutions, and the workplace; and

12 WHEREAS, mentoring happens in various ways, including formal mentoring
13 matches and informal relationships with teachers, coaches, neighbors, faith leaders, and
14 others; and

15 WHEREAS, mentoring encourages positive youth development and smart daily
16 behaviors; and

17 WHEREAS, mentors help young people set career goals and can help connect
18 mentees to industry professionals to train for and find jobs; and

19 WHEREAS, research has found that young people who had a mentor were, when
20 compared with their peers, less likely to start using drugs; and

21 WHEREAS, mentoring relationships can have a positive impact on mental health,
22 educational peer relationships, employment, and housing stability; and

23 WHEREAS, mentoring is both a prevention and intervention strategy that can
24 support young people in all aspects of their lives; and

25 WHEREAS, the benefits of mentors serve to link youth to economic and social
26 opportunity while also strengthening communities in the Commonwealth; and

27 WHEREAS, despite the benefits of mentoring, many young people grow up

1 without a mentor to offer real life guidance and support; and

2 WHEREAS, this "mentoring gap" demonstrates the need for collaboration between
3 the private, public, and nonprofit sectors to increase resources for mentorships for youth
4 in communities, schools, and workplaces;

5 NOW, THEREFORE,

6 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the*
7 *Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

8 ➔Section 1. The members of the House of Representatives hereby recognize
9 January 2026 as Kentucky Mentorship Month.

10 ➔Section 2. When the House of Representatives adjourns this day, it does so in
11 honor, recognition, and celebration of Kentucky's mentors and the youth they encourage
12 and support.

13 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a
14 copy of this Resolution to Representative DJ Johnson for delivery.