

1 A RESOLUTION recognizing and honoring the cultural, social, and economic
2 contributions of the Cuban American community to the rich history of the city of
3 Louisville and the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

4 WHEREAS, Cuba is the largest and most populous country of all the Caribbean
5 Islands and is located just 90 miles south of Florida; and

6 WHEREAS, Cuba is a country known for its vibrant culture and history, reflecting
7 a unique blend of Spanish, African, and indigenous influences; and

8 WHEREAS, after the Cuban Revolution in 1959, Cuba became an authoritarian,
9 one-party state controlled by the Communist Party of Cuba. For more than 60 years,
10 politically motivated persecution and the threat of arrest and imprisonment by the ruling
11 regime has forced many Cubans to risk their lives attempting to escape the island in
12 search of a better life in the United States; and

13 WHEREAS, Louisville's Cuban American population has grown significantly faster
14 than in many other parts of the United States, attracting new arrivals due to better job
15 opportunities, a network of nonprofit agencies that support newcomers, and a lower cost
16 of living compared to traditional Cuban immigration hubs like Miami, Florida, and
17 Houston, Texas; and

18 WHEREAS, Cuban Americans now represent the largest single immigrant group in
19 Louisville. With a population estimated at more than 50,000 people today and expected
20 to double within the next five years, the community's increasing numbers have helped
21 offset a population decline in Metro Louisville; and

22 WHEREAS, the Cuban American community is known for their strong work ethic
23 and healthy entrepreneurial spirit. Thousands of Cubans proudly work in local factories
24 and warehouses, and in professional capacities as teachers, engineers, dentists, doctors,
25 and lawyers. In addition, Louisville currently boasts more than 500 small Cuban-owned
26 businesses that bring innovative products and services to the area, pay taxes, and improve
27 the labor market; and

1 WHEREAS, Cuban Americans in Kentucky significantly enrich the
2 Commonwealth's well-established reputation for good music, fine arts, and wonderful
3 dining experiences. Cultural elements of their home country shine through the work of
4 dozens of accomplished Cuban American artists, musicians, photographers, actors, and
5 dancers. Additionally, Kentucky's culinary scene continues to evolve and grow through
6 fresh flavors and dishes offered at some of the most popular restaurants and cafés in
7 Louisville;

8 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

11 ➔Section 1. The House of Representatives hereby recognizes and honors the
12 cultural, social, and economic contributions of the Cuban American community to the
13 rich history of the city of Louisville and the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

14 ➔Section 2. The House of Representatives acknowledges the resilience of the
15 Cuban American people in overcoming geographical, financial, and language barriers to
16 thrive in their new home country, and expresses strong solidarity with their aspirations
17 for a future where Cuba is free from authoritarian rule.

18 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a
19 copy of this Resolution to Representative Daniel Grossberg.