

1 A RESOLUTION encouraging Jefferson County Public Schools to name a future
2 school in honor of José Martí.

3 WHEREAS, Cubans have chosen to settle in almost every major town in the
4 Commonwealth, and

5 WHEREAS, Cuban Americans now represent one of the largest immigrant groups
6 in Louisville, with a population estimated at more than 50,000 people. The city is home
7 to one of the fastest growing Cuban populations anywhere in the United States; and

8 WHEREAS, known for their entrepreneurship, cuisine, and art, the Cuban
9 community has become an essential part of Jefferson County's culture; and

10 WHEREAS, José Martí, who is often referred to as the "Apostle of Cuban
11 Independence," was a poet, essayist, journalist, and independence leader who dedicated his
12 life to liberating Cuba from Spanish rule while supporting and celebrating the freedom of
13 the United States; and

14 WHEREAS, José Martí's legacy is deeply ingrained in Cuban culture, with
15 numerous monuments, schools, streets, and parks named in his honor in the United
16 States, including at Shively Park in Shively, Kentucky; and

17 WHEREAS, José Martí's life and work embodies universal values that transcend
18 national borders and would serve as an exceptional inspiration to a school's student body
19 and staff; and

20 WHEREAS, naming a school in honor of José Martí in the Jefferson County Public
21 School district would be a timely and meaningful acknowledgment of the rapid growth
22 and impact of the Cuban community in the city of Louisville and Jefferson County and

23 WHEREAS, by honoring a giant of Cuban culture, Louisville would send a clear
24 message of welcome and inclusion to the immigrant community of the Commonwealth,
25 while also exposing all students to a world-renowned historical figure revered for his
26 progressive thinking;

27 NOW, THEREFORE,

1 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the*
2 *Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3 ➔Section 1. The House of Representatives hereby honors the life and legacy of
4 José Martí and his impact on the city of Louisville and the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

5 ➔Section 2. The House of Representatives encourages Jefferson County Public
6 Schools to recognize and honor José Martí by dedicating a future school in his name.

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