

1       A RESOLUTION designating February 1 to 7, 2026, as Burn Awareness Week in  
2       the Commonwealth of Kentucky and recognizing University of Louisville Hospital's  
3       Burn Center.

4       WHEREAS, burn injuries continue to be one of the leading causes of accidental  
5       death and injury in the nation, where tragically, children, the elderly, and the disabled are  
6       especially vulnerable to burn injuries and almost one-third of all burn injuries occur in  
7       children under the age of 15; and

8       WHEREAS, in the United States, the CDC reports that 398,000 people received  
9       medical care for burn injuries in 2021, with 252,000 deaths from injuries related to hot  
10      objects or substances; and

11      WHEREAS, compared to the overall population, children under five were two  
12      times as likely to be seen for burn injuries at a hospital emergency department. Young  
13      adults from ages 20 to 29 had 1.4 times the risk of the general population, and adults ages  
14      30 to 39 had 1.3 times the risk of the general population; and

15      WHEREAS, the primary causes of injury include fire-flame, scalds, contact with  
16      hot objects, and electrical and chemical burns. Many injuries occur in the workplace; and

17      WHEREAS, National Burn Awareness Week, an initiative of the American Burn  
18      Association, is a coming together of burn, fire, and life-safety educators to make the  
19      public aware of the frequency, devastation, and causes of burn injury, as well as  
20      consistent and authoritative measures to prevent these injuries, and how to best care for  
21      those that are injured; and

22      WHEREAS, the theme for 2026 National Burn Awareness Week is "Burn  
23      Prevention Where You Live, Work, and Play – Preventing Burns in the Workplace,"  
24      where a common risk of injury exists from fire injury in the workplace; and

25      WHEREAS, today, 96.8% of those who suffer burn injuries will survive.  
26      Unfortunately, many of those survivors will sustain serious scarring, life-long physical  
27      disabilities, and adjustment difficulties; and

1 WHEREAS, significant research and medical advances have dramatically improved  
2 burn care and treatment, aided rehabilitation, shortened hospital stays, and increased burn  
3 survival rates. Aftercare support for physical and emotional effects of burn injuries has  
4 also played a key role in the successful reintegration of burn survivors into our  
5 communities. Furthermore, burn safety education and prevention efforts continue to  
6 reduce the number of people who suffer burns each year; and

7 WHEREAS, many people devote their lives and careers to treating, caring for,  
8 supporting, and rehabilitating burn injury survivors, including those performing vital  
9 work in burn research and development. There are dedicated firefighters who risk their  
10 own lives every day to protect others, as well as burn foundations and other life-safety  
11 professionals who promote burn injury awareness and prevention; and

12 WHEREAS, University of Louisville Hospital is home to the only dedicated adult  
13 burn center in Kentucky, where a multidisciplinary team cares for approximately 350  
14 patients annually; and

15 WHEREAS, University of Louisville Hospital's Burn Center offers holistic services  
16 to assist patients and their families towards recovery, including trauma and plastic  
17 surgeons, registered nurses, physical, speech, and occupational therapy, burn technicians,  
18 social services, psychiatry, nutrition, addictive medicine, and chaplaincy service;

19 NOW, THEREFORE,

20 ***Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the***  
21 ***Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

22 ➔Section 1. The House of Representatives hereby designates February 1 to 7,  
23 2026, as Burn Awareness Week in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and recognizes the  
24 University of Louisville Hospital's Burn Center.

25 ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a  
26 copy of this Resolution to Representative Pamela Stevenson for delivery to University of  
27 Louisville Hospital's Burn Center.