

1 A RESOLUTION adjourning the Senate in honor and loving memory of Joyce
2 Laverne Johnson.

3 WHEREAS, Joyce Laverne Johnson was born on February 27, 1961, to Emma Jean
4 Johnson and Ivory Joseph Breaux; and

5 WHEREAS, Joyce Laverne Johnson embraced life with a passion, meeting each
6 day with open arms and an unwavering expectation of good. Her resilience and strength
7 of character steadied her through every challenge. She moved through the world with a
8 remarkable and unique synchronicity; and

9 WHEREAS, Joyce Laverne Johnson was a natural connector who brought people
10 together, sparked ideas, and guided both toward positive action and goodwill within the
11 community. Diversity, equity, and inclusion were not just ideals that she simply
12 supported, they were the way she lived her life. Her wide and eclectic circle of friends
13 reflected this deep commitment; and

14 WHEREAS, Joyce Laverne Johnson was also a historian at heart. More than a
15 decade ago she created the Facebook page, "Help Identify Kentucky African American
16 Friends and Family," which has grown to more than 2,500 members. Her work has
17 illuminated important people, stories, and events, and was pivotal in preserving and
18 uplifting the rich culture of the African American community in Lexington and beyond;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, Joyce Laverne Johnson was a devoted student of genealogy. She
21 followed leads and uncovered connections that helped families hungry to understand their
22 ancestry. Through this work, she connected people and linked them to the stories that
23 shaped their family histories; and

24 WHEREAS, through her photography, Joyce Laverne Johnson documented current
25 events, special gatherings, businesses, and places of interest. Her attentive lens often
26 brought visibility and recognition to people and spaces that might otherwise have gone
27 unnoticed; and

1 WHEREAS, Joyce Laverne Johnson was a lover of all animals, not just the cute and
2 cuddly ones. She had a tender heart for all living creatures and did all she could to care
3 for them; and

4 WHEREAS, on December 19, 2025, Joyce Laverne Johnson peacefully and
5 comfortably entered eternity; and

6 WHEREAS, Joyce Laverne Johnson was preceded in death by her parents, her
7 sister Bobbie L. Edwards, and her brother, Gary Johnson; and

8 WHEREAS, Joyce Laverne Johnson was deeply loved and respected by all who
9 knew her. She will be profoundly missed in Lexington, across this great Commonwealth,
10 and beyond;

11 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

14 ➔Section 1. The Senate hereby expresses its most profound sympathy upon the
15 passing of Joyce Laverne Johnson.

16 ➔Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor and loving
17 memory of Joyce Laverne Johnson.

18 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
19 Resolution to Senator Reginald Thomas for delivery to the family.