

1 A RESOLUTION honoring the Murray State University Racers baseball team,  
2 2025 College World Series participants.

3 WHEREAS, on June 9, 2025, at Jack Coombs field on the campus of Duke  
4 University, the Murray State University Racers defeated the Duke Blue Devils by a score  
5 of 5-4 to win the Durham Super Regional and advance to the 2025 College World Series  
6 (CWS) in Omaha, Nebraska; and

7 WHEREAS, the underdog Racers' Cinderella run to Omaha marked only the fourth  
8 time in the history of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Baseball  
9 Tournament that a team seeded fourth in one of the tournament's 16 regionals advanced  
10 through regional and super regional play to the CWS; and

11 WHEREAS, the Racers earned their way into the NCAA Tournament by winning  
12 the Missouri Valley Conference Tournament championship, their first since joining that  
13 conference in 2022; and

14 WHEREAS, in the first game in the double-elimination regional round, the Racers  
15 scored a 9-6 win over the Ole Miss Rebels, who were ranked as the 10th-best team in the  
16 entire 64-team field. The Racers then defeated Georgia Tech and lost a game against Ole  
17 Miss, setting up a winner-take-all regional final; and

18 WHEREAS, the regional final saw an offensive explosion, with the Racers staking  
19 themselves to a 12-3 lead after 7½ innings. After a spirited Rebel rally, Graham Kelham  
20 came on in relief to record the last eight outs of the game for the Racers, six of which  
21 came by strikeout; and

22 WHEREAS, with the victory, the Racers advanced to a best-of-three game super  
23 regional on the road against Duke University. After splitting the first two games of the  
24 series, the Racers edged the Blue Devils 5-4 in game three, with Luke Mistone hitting the  
25 go-ahead home run in the eighth inning and Kelham earning the win with another stellar  
26 relief appearance; and

27 WHEREAS, with the win, the Racers advanced to the College World Series in

1 Omaha, the Holy Grail of college baseball, and although they did not capture the ultimate  
2 prize, the tremendous run through the tournament by this talented group of college  
3 athletes will forever be remembered in the annals of college baseball history; and

4 WHEREAS, the Racers finished the 2025 season with a record of 44 wins against  
5 17 losses, setting a school record for wins in a season in addition to earning the school's  
6 first trip to the College World Series; and

7 WHEREAS, members of the Racers squad were Nico Bermeo, Nic Schutte,  
8 Jackson McCoy, Gunnar Bingham, Harper McLendon, Isaac Huettl, Holden Carpenter,  
9 Carson Garner, Dustin Mercer, Jaxon Diamond, Dom Decker, Kane Elmy, Conner  
10 Cunningham, Jonathan Hogart, Derek Lebron, Will Vierling, Jacob Hustedde, Ethan  
11 Lyke, Reese Oakley, Brayden Baker, Kingsley Guthrie, Luke Mistone, Danny Rollins,  
12 Brady Grabowski, Dylan Zentko, Preston Chaudoin, Parker Patterson, Isaac Silva, Jack  
13 Wajda, Matt Parenteau, Brevin Scott, Dan Tauken, Reed Braundmeier, Jackson Ugo,  
14 Graham Kelham, Charlie Jury, and David Stokely; and

15 WHEREAS, the Racers were led by Head Coach Dan Skirka, who in seven seasons  
16 has led the Racers to 209 wins; Assistant Coaches Steve Adkins, Hunter Wolfe, and  
17 Anthony Ortega; and Director of Player Development Hayden Cross; and

18 WHEREAS, the dedication and excellence displayed by the 2025 Murray State  
19 Racers baseball team have brought great pride to the school and the entire  
20 Commonwealth, and they are indeed worthy of public commendation;

21 NOW, THEREFORE,

22 ***Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of***  
23 ***Kentucky:***

24 ➔Section 1. The members of the Senate join Senator Jason Howell in  
25 congratulating the Murray State Racers and coach Dan Skirka for earning the school's  
26 first-ever trip to the College World Series, applauding the talent and dedication of team  
27 members and coaches, and wishing everyone involved with the team good fortune in all

1 future endeavors.

2       ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate shall transmit a copy of this Resolution to

3 Senator Jason Howell for presentation to the team.