

1           A RESOLUTION adjourning the Senate in honor and loving memory of Thomas V.  
2 "Tom" Handy.

3           WHEREAS, after graduating from the University of Kentucky College of Law,  
4 Tom Handy worked as an assistant for Kentucky's Fifth Congressional District  
5 Representative Tim Lee Carter before opening a private law practice in 1971; and

6           WHEREAS, Tom Handy devoted much of his life to advocating for victims in the  
7 London community and served for 28 years as Commonwealth's Attorney for Kentucky's  
8 27th Judicial Circuit, prosecuting many high-profile cases and acting as a mentor to  
9 young attorneys; and

10          WHEREAS, Tom Handy's colleagues describe him as having been an outstanding  
11 member of the legal profession, an excellent public speaker, and a trusted and loyal  
12 friend; and

13          WHEREAS, Tom Handy helped incorporate Operation UNITE upon his retirement  
14 in 2003 at the request of Congressman Hal Rogers, served as Chairman of its Board of  
15 Directors for 17 years, and continued as a board member until his death, assisting with  
16 the creation and growth of one of the most effective and comprehensive anti-drug  
17 programs in the nation and putting aside political and socioeconomic differences to bring  
18 positive change for all citizens of this Commonwealth; and

19          WHEREAS, Tom Handy was a dedicated public servant who made a lasting impact  
20 on the London community through his many meaningful contributions, particularly  
21 through service as a founding member of Leadership Tri-County, which was established  
22 in 1987 to develop and empower leaders in Laurel, Knox, and Whitley Counties; and

23          WHEREAS, Tom Handy was a forward-thinking champion of local tourism,  
24 recognizing its potential for growth well before it became an economic priority. He was  
25 the longtime chair of the London-Laurel County Tourist Commission, and he, along with  
26 his brother Jim, developed early hospitality landmarks in London, including the Ramada  
27 Inn, the Charcoal House, and later a motel and restaurant complex, creating enduring

1 gathering places that helped shape the community's growth and character; and

2 WHEREAS, Tom Handy also generously gave his time and expertise to a number  
3 of other public agencies throughout the Commonwealth, including the Kentucky Horse  
4 Racing Authority, the Kentucky Executive Ethics Commission, the Executive Legislative  
5 Committee, and the Kentucky Crime Victims Compensation Board; and

6 WHEREAS, Tom Handy was a man of deep Christian faith, being a longtime  
7 member of First Christian Church in London and helping to organize a mission group  
8 called Assisted Better Living for Everywhere (ABLE) that performs construction mission  
9 work both within Kentucky and internationally and emphasizes improvements to schools,  
10 orphanages, and senior citizen residences; and

11 WHEREAS, Tom Handy's greatest joys in life came from his family, and he is  
12 survived by his loving wife Bonnie; his son, Starr Handy, and wife Amy; his daughter,  
13 Dennie Beth Mills, and husband Matt; his brother, Jim Handy, and wife Kathy; and two  
14 nephews, Jason Handy and Jimmie Handy; and

15 WHEREAS, through his leadership, insight, and dedication, Tom Handy left an  
16 indelible mark on his community and this Commonwealth, and his guidance will be  
17 deeply missed by all who knew him;

18 NOW, THEREFORE,

19 ***Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of***  
20 ***Kentucky:***

21 ➔Section 1. The Senate hereby joins with Senator Brandon Storm in expressing  
22 its most profound sympathy upon the passing of Thomas V. "Tom" Handy and extends  
23 its heartfelt condolences to his family in this time of loss.

24 ➔Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor and loving  
25 memory of Thomas V. "Tom" Handy.

26 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this  
27 Resolution to Senator Brandon Storm for delivery to the family of Thomas V. "Tom"

1 Handy.