

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 Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of***
21 ***Kentucky:***

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

25 ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
26 Resolution to Senator Gerald A. Neal for delivery to University of Louisville Hospital's
27 Burn Center.