

1 WHEREAS, highlights of Senator Jimmy Higdon's service include serving as Chair
2 of the Veterans, Military Affairs, and Public Protection Committee, serving as Senate
3 Majority Whip from 2014 to 2018 and Senate President Pro Tem from 2018 to 2019, and
4 serving as Senate Transportation Committee Chair since 2020; and

5 WHEREAS, as Transportation Committee Chair, Senator Jimmy Higdon oversaw
6 record funding for state road projects, including \$500 million for major state highway
7 projects, such as the Brent Spence Bridge, the Mountain Parkway completion, and
8 construction of the I-69 Bridge. Senator Higdon also spearheaded \$450 million in
9 funding for projects in high growth counties and for economic development projects
10 through the state; and

11 WHEREAS, Senator Jimmy Higdon also assisted with legislation transitioning to
12 the KAVIS system, which modernized Kentucky's vehicle title and registration systems,
13 and strongly advocated for expansion of driver licensing and testing centers; and

14 WHEREAS, equally as meaningful was Senator Jimmy Higdon's work on the
15 Public Pension Oversight Board, which he has chaired since 2019, becoming the General
16 Assembly's expert on public pension matters, improving the public's knowledge of
17 pension issues facing the Commonwealth, and shepherding the systems towards
18 improved financial stability that will benefit future generations in this great
19 Commonwealth; and

20 WHEREAS, in 2017, after being approached by a constituent, Senator Jimmy
21 Higdon established Military Kids Day as a recognition and celebration of the children of
22 military families at the Capitol. He has put his heart and soul into this annual event,
23 which has grown from fewer than 40 attendees in 2017 to approximately 250 participants
24 in 2025, has received national recognition, and serves as a model for improving civic
25 engagement in other states; and

26 WHEREAS, Senator Jimmy Higdon is known for working across the aisle and
27 across state government with the executive branch, as well as fulfilling the unofficial role

1 of "the Freshman Mentor," working with and supporting newly elected senators as they
2 navigate their new roles in the State Senate; and

3 WHEREAS, Senator Jimmy Higdon has announced that he will retire at the end of
4 his current term, and that the 2026 Regular Session of the General Assembly will be his
5 last; and

6 WHEREAS, Senator Jimmy Higdon's career as a public servant will be
7 remembered by his kindness, decency, and respect to all he dealt with during his career,
8 and his legacy will be that of a good man who did the best he could each and every day,
9 and was subsequently able to achieve great things; and

10 WHEREAS, Senator Jimmy Higdon looks forward to retirement with his loving
11 family, including Jane, his wife of 52 years; his daughter and son-in-law Brittany and
12 David Nagle; his son and daughter-in-law, Jim and Alicia Higdon; and his three
13 grandsons, David, Dawson, and Alec Nagle; and

14 WHEREAS, Jimmy Higdon's service to his constituents and the Commonwealth,
15 his lasting impact on Kentucky's transportation infrastructure, and his legacy of kindness
16 and humanity are indeed worthy of public recognition;

17 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

20 ➔Section 1. The members of the Senate do hereby honor the extraordinary
21 service of Senator Jimmy Higdon to the General Assembly and the Commonwealth of
22 Kentucky and wish him well in his retirement.

23 ➔Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor of the
24 extraordinary service of Senator Jimmy Higdon to the Commonwealth of Kentucky and
25 the General Assembly.

26 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
27 Resolution to Senator Robert Stivers for delivery to Senator Jimmy Higdon.