

1       A RESOLUTION recognizing and honoring the CSX Santa Train.

2       WHEREAS, the members of the Senate have traditionally taken great pleasure in  
3 recognizing those estimable organizations that have a longstanding tradition of uplifting  
4 the children of this Commonwealth who are most in need; and

5       WHEREAS, for 83 years, the CSX Santa Train has been one of the nation's most  
6 cherished holiday traditions, bringing joy and hope to the heart of Appalachia; and

7       WHEREAS, since 1943, the Santa Train has made a 110-mile journey through  
8 Kentucky, Virginia, and Tennessee, with Santa and his elves tossing toys, handing out  
9 backpacks filled with supplies, and spreading Christmas cheer to children and their  
10 families; and

11       WHEREAS, in 2025, the CSX Santa Train provided more than 15,000 toys, 6,000  
12 train safety books, and 5,000 bags with cold-weather gear to the hundreds of individuals  
13 who were gathered along its route, which spanned from Shelbiana, Kentucky, to  
14 Kingsport, Tennessee; and

15       WHEREAS, the Santa Train is made possible by devoted volunteers, CSX  
16 employees who spend weeks packing all the backpacks with toys, and community  
17 partners, including Appalachian Power, Food City, and the Kingsport Chamber of  
18 Commerce; and

19       WHEREAS, for more than eight decades, the CSX Santa Train has brought joy,  
20 hope, and Christmas magic to children who might not otherwise receive any gifts for the  
21 holiday; and

22       WHEREAS, it is most fitting that we recognize one of this Commonwealth's most  
23 exemplary charitable events at this time;

24       NOW, THEREFORE,

25       *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*  
26       *Kentucky:*

27       ➡Section 1.   The members of the Senate join Senator Phillip Wheeler in

1 recognizing the profound cultural impact and importance of the CSX Santa Train to  
2 eastern Kentucky, expressing their deep appreciation to the many sponsors and volunteers  
3 who make this effort possible every year, and wishing all involved good fortune in the  
4 years to come as they continue this tradition for future generations of children from the  
5 mountains.

6       ➡Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate shall transmit a copy of this Resolution to  
7 Senator Phillip Wheeler for presentation to CSX.