

1 A RESOLUTION urging the exploration of opportunities to honor and educate the
2 public about great Kentuckians.

3 WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Kentucky has produced countless individuals
4 whose contributions have shaped the nation's history, culture, and progress; and

5 WHEREAS, Muhammad Ali, a world heavyweight champion boxer and
6 humanitarian, exhibited courage and advocacy for peace and justice that transcended
7 sports; and

8 WHEREAS, Georgia Davis Powers broke historic barriers as the first African
9 American and the first woman elected to the Kentucky State Senate, dedicating her life to
10 civil rights and public service; and

11 WHEREAS, Governor Martha Layne Collins made history as the first, and to date
12 only, woman to serve as Governor of Kentucky, pioneering landmark education reforms,
13 strong economic development, and workforce innovation; and

14 WHEREAS, Louis D. Brandeis became the first Jewish Justice of the United States
15 Supreme Court and remains a lasting symbol of integrity, intellect, and commitment to
16 justice; and

17 WHEREAS, Loretta Lynn, who rose from humble Appalachian roots to become
18 one of the most influential and beloved voices in American music, broke barriers for
19 women in the industry and redefined what country music could say; and

20 WHEREAS, John James Audubon, who transformed the study and appreciation of
21 the natural world through his groundbreaking art and ornithology, left a lasting legacy
22 that continues to shape how Americans understand and protect their wildlife; and

23 WHEREAS, these and other Kentuckians reflect the diversity, creativity, and
24 courage that define the spirit of the Commonwealth; and

25 WHEREAS, the education of Kentucky's youth is enriched when students learn
26 about the lives and legacies of individuals from their own state who have contributed to
27 the arts, sciences, civil rights, law, and public life; and

1 WHEREAS, exploring the creation of state holidays, commemorative observances,
2 and curricular programs dedicated to great Kentuckians would both celebrate Kentucky's
3 proud heritage and inspire future generations to leadership and service;

4 NOW, THEREFORE,

5 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*
6 *Kentucky:*

7 ➔Section 1. The Senate urges appropriate legislative committees, state agencies,
8 and educational authorities to explore opportunities to formally honor and educate the
9 public about the lives and contributions of great Kentuckians.

10 ➔Section 2. The Senate encourages the implementation of strategies to
11 accomplish this goal, including but not limited to the establishment of holidays,
12 observances, and inclusion of appropriate content in Kentucky's school curriculum.

13 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
14 Resolution to Dr. Aaron Thompson, president, Council on Postsecondary Education, 100
15 Airport Road, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601; Dr. Robbie Fletcher, commissioner, Kentucky
16 Department of Education, 300 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky, 40601; Governor
17 Andy Beshear, 703 Capital Avenue, Room 133, Frankfort, Kentucky, 40601; and the
18 President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Senator Cassie
19 Chambers Armstrong.