

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION establishing the Childhood Cancer Caucus
2 within the Kentucky General Assembly.

3 WHEREAS, according to the National Cancer Institute, childhood cancer is the
4 leading cause of death by disease past infancy in children in the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, an estimated 1 in 285 children in the United States will be diagnosed
6 with cancer by their 20th birthday; and

7 WHEREAS, it is estimated that 42 children per day or 15,270 children and
8 adolescents ages 0 to 19 years will be diagnosed with cancer in 2017 in the United States;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, an estimated two-thirds of childhood cancer patients will have chronic
11 health conditions as a result of their treatment toxicity, with one-quarter being classified
12 as severe to life-threatening; and

13 WHEREAS, it is estimated that Kentucky has a 42% higher rate of pediatric brain
14 tumors than other areas of the country; and

15 WHEREAS, in the last 20 years, only four new drugs have been approved by the
16 federal Food and Drug Administration to specifically treat childhood cancer; and

17 WHEREAS, the National Cancer Institute recognizes the unique research needs of
18 childhood cancer and the associated need for increased funding to carry this out; and

19 WHEREAS, more must be done to raise awareness and find cures for this deadly
20 disease that affects so many children and their families; and

21 WHEREAS, a legislative caucus dedicated to childhood cancer will allow the
22 General Assembly to take a leading role in prioritizing awareness and research of this
23 urgent need for Kentucky children;

24 NOW, THEREFORE,

25 ***Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the***
26 ***Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Senate concurring therein:***

27 ➔Section 1. There is hereby established a nonpartisan, bicameral caucus within

1 the Kentucky General Assembly to be called the Childhood Cancer Caucus.

2 ➔Section 2. The Childhood Cancer Caucus shall work to promote awareness and
3 support for Kentucky children diagnosed with cancer that focuses on collaboration and
4 innovation for more targeted treatments with less toxicity. The caucus shall work closely
5 with the Kentucky Pediatric Cancer Research Trust Fund and other groups and
6 organizations based in Kentucky to achieve its goals.

7 ➔Section 3. It is respectfully requested that the Speaker of the House of
8 Representatives and the President of the Senate support the creation of the Childhood
9 Cancer Caucus by encouraging members of each chamber to participate in the caucus.