

1           A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION recognizing January 16th as National Religious  
2 Freedom Day.

3           WHEREAS, religious freedom is a shared principle that lies at the heart of this  
4 great Nation's commitment to liberty; and

5           WHEREAS, religious freedom is also a keystone to the United States' values, its  
6 guiding tenets, and its strength as a country; and

7           WHEREAS, our Founders had a deep appreciation and understanding for religion  
8 and how it shaped their burgeoning society, and they sought to ensure that religious  
9 liberty was a right Americans should never stop striving to uphold; and

10           WHEREAS, recognizing and respecting the strongly held religious views of others  
11 is the key to avoiding division and discrimination; and

12           WHEREAS, it is essential that the people of this Commonwealth are free to express  
13 their religious beliefs without fear of prejudice or bias, and that all Kentuckians feel safe  
14 in their expression of faith without the threat of intimidation because of those beliefs; and

15           WHEREAS, in so doing, the Kentucky General Assembly stands behind the First  
16 Amendment of the United States Constitution, which asserts that "Congress shall make  
17 no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof,"  
18 and urges all citizens of this Commonwealth to defend the fundamental principles of  
19 religious liberty that our Founders so bravely expressed;

20           NOW, THEREFORE,

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

23           ➔Section 1. The Kentucky General Assembly rightfully embraces the shared  
24 belief that religious freedom is an inalienable right that is at the very heart of our strength  
25 as a just and law-abiding society.

26           ➔Section 2. The Kentucky General Assembly recognizes January 16th as  
27 National Religious Freedom Day.