

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION designating April 6, 2017, as World War One
2 Centennial Day in the Commonwealth.

3 WHEREAS, April 6, 2017, marks the centennial of America's declaration of war
4 against Imperial Germany and the country's entry into the First World War; and

5 WHEREAS, men and women from the Commonwealth have served in the Armed
6 Forces with distinction in the Great War and those that followed, and they continue to
7 serve in defense of our freedoms today; and

8 WHEREAS, Kentucky was chosen as the site of one of only 16 World War One
9 cantonments, Camp Zachary Taylor in Louisville, where more than 150,000 men trained
10 for service in the war; and

11 WHEREAS, two men with Kentucky backgrounds were awarded the Medal of
12 Honor for valorous service in World War One: Captain Samuel Woodfall, a resident of
13 Fort Thomas, and Sergeant Willie Sandlin of Buckhorn. When General Pershing was
14 asked to name the most gallant among all of America's heroes from the Great War,
15 Captain Woodfall was among his selection; and

16 WHEREAS, at least six men from Kentucky served in the legendary United States
17 Army unit nicknamed the Harlem Hellfighters and were awarded the Croix de Guerre by
18 the government of France for their valorous service in the war: Private Bert Beckham,
19 Private Robert Wooten, Private Bradley Logan, and Private Ionia Harris, all of
20 Shelbyville; Private Leonard Todd of Finchville; and Private John Ray Carter of
21 Anderson County; and

22 WHEREAS, Kentucky is home to legendary military units at Fort Campbell and
23 Fort Knox, as well as more than 300,000 veterans of all branches of the military; and

24 WHEREAS, Congress has officially created the World War One Centennial
25 Commission to educate, commemorate, and honor this event in our history, and the
26 Commonwealth has created the Kentucky World War One Centennial Committee to do
27 the same; and

1 WHEREAS, nearly 100,000 Kentucky families were among the more than four
2 million American families who sent their sons and daughters to serve in uniform during
3 the Great War, with 116,516 soldiers giving their lives in combat, including 2,318
4 Kentuckians, and another 200,000 were wounded;

5 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

8 ➔Section 1. The House of Representatives encourages all citizens to remember
9 and commemorate America's entry into the Great War and the sacrifices that awaited its
10 citizens one hundred years ago.

11 ➔Section 2. The House of Representatives and Senate designate April 6, 2017, as
12 World War One Centennial Day throughout the Commonwealth of Kentucky.