

1 A RESOLUTION recognizing March 21, 2022, as Down Syndrome Awareness
2 Day.

3 WHEREAS, Down syndrome occurs when an individual has an extra partial or
4 whole copy of chromosome 21, and it is not known why this syndrome occurs; and

5 WHEREAS, Down syndrome exists in every region of the globe and normally
6 results in variable effects on learning styles, physical characteristics, and overall health;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Down syndrome occurs in about 1 in 1,000 live births, with between
9 3,000 and 5,000 children born every year around the world with this chromosome
10 disorder. Every year in Kentucky, approximately 66 babies are born with Down
11 syndrome; and

12 WHEREAS, adequate access to health care, early intervention programs, and
13 inclusive education are vital to the growth and development of individuals with Down
14 syndrome; and

15 WHEREAS, the quality of life of people with Down syndrome can be improved by
16 meeting their health care needs, including regular appointments with health care
17 professionals to monitor mental and physical conditions and to provide timely
18 intervention in the form of physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy,
19 counseling, or special education; and

20 WHEREAS, individuals with Down syndrome can reach their fullest personal
21 potential through parental care and support, medical guidance, community based support
22 systems, and inclusive education; and

23 WHEREAS, in December of 2011, the United Nations General Assembly declared
24 March 21 as World Down Syndrome Awareness Day in an attempt to raise public
25 awareness of the disease and to promote inclusion for people with Down syndrome and
26 disabilities; and

27 WHEREAS, World Down Syndrome Awareness Day is an opportunity for the

1 Down syndrome community to connect every year to share ideas, experiences, and
2 knowledge, empower others to advocate for equal rights for people with Down syndrome,
3 and reach out to key figures to bring about positive change;

4 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

7 ➔Section 1. The House of Representatives recognizes all Kentuckians with Down
8 syndrome and honors their contributions to the Commonwealth of Kentucky and hereby
9 recognizes March 21, 2022, as Down Syndrome Awareness Day.

10 ➔Section 2. The House of Representatives urges the citizens of the
11 Commonwealth of Kentucky to become informed of the need for services, support, and
12 treatments for individuals with Down syndrome.

13 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a
14 copy of this Resolution to Representative Scott Sharp.