

1 A RESOLUTION adjourning the House of Representatives in honor and loving
2 memory of William Ray Black Jr.

3 WHEREAS, Bill Black was born in New York City on September 30, 1945, the son
4 of the late William Ray and Virginia Giblin Black; and

5 WHEREAS, Bill Black graduated from Paducah Tilghman High School and
6 attended Princeton University on a Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps scholarship,
7 graduating in 1967 with a degree in history; and

8 WHEREAS, Bill Black proudly served his country as a member of the United
9 States Marine Corps in the Vietnam War, where he earned a Bronze Star and two Purple
10 Hearts; and

11 WHEREAS, Bill Black returned to Paducah after the war and became instrumental
12 in the growth of his beloved hometown. He specialized in historic preservation, and
13 among his projects were Whitehaven, the River Discovery Center, and many other
14 historic buildings in Paducah. He was the founder of the Lower Town Neighborhood
15 Association and was instrumental in the designation of its 26 blocks as a historic zone;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, Bill Black became the Scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop Number 1 in
18 1985, and was able to grow the troop to more than 70 scouts and to keep it from losing its
19 charter as one of the seven original troops in the United States; and

20 WHEREAS, Bill Black served on the Paducah Independent School Board for 24
21 years, and was a congregant at Grace Episcopal Church; and

22 WHEREAS, William Ray Black Jr., beloved husband, father, and grandfather,
23 departed this earthly life and entered into the kingdom of Heaven on March 18, 2017,
24 leaving his family, friends, and all those whose lives he touched in solemn mourning; and

25 WHEREAS, Bill Black is survived by his wife of 44 years, Nancy Fowler Black;
26 sons, William Ray Black III and his wife, Sarah Maggos Black, David Dawson Black and
27 his wife, Lindsay McMaster Black, and Merle Fowler Black and his wife, Emily Yocum

1 Black; grandchildren, Liam Black, Dawson Black, Sasha Black, Ford Black, and Nolan
2 Black; sister, Virginia Black Coltharp and her husband, James Richard Coltharp; brother,
3 Christopher James Black and his wife, Nancy Williams Black; and a host of other family
4 members, friends, and loved ones who will dearly miss his presence in their lives;

5 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

8 ➔Section 1. The members of the House of Representatives hereby express their
9 most profound sympathy upon the passing of William Ray Black Jr., and acknowledge
10 his myriad contributions to the city of Paducah during his extraordinary life.

11 ➔Section 2. When the House of Representatives adjourns this day, it does so in
12 honor and loving memory of William Ray Black Jr.

13 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a
14 copy of this Resolution to Representative Gerald Watkins for delivery to the family.