

1 A RESOLUTION urging the Federal Aviation Administration to update its
2 administrative regulations pertaining to agricultural unmanned aircraft systems.

3 WHEREAS, Kentucky has a rich agricultural background, as it is home to
4 approximately 75,000 farms that span nearly 13 million acres of land, which represents
5 more than half of all land in the Commonwealth; and

6 WHEREAS, the impact of agriculture on Kentucky's economy is immense, as total
7 cash receipts for the Commonwealth's commodities are nearly \$6 billion, and the total
8 economic impact of agriculture production, processing, and other agriculture-related
9 operations is an estimated \$46 billion; and

10 WHEREAS, improvements to agricultural processes have been made possible by
11 technological advancements in recent years like unmanned aircraft systems, more
12 commonly known as drones; and

13 WHEREAS, the earliest agricultural drones were often used for simple monitoring
14 tasks such as crop scouting, which is inspecting fields for signs of pests, weeds, and
15 diseases; and

16 WHEREAS, recent advancements in drone technology now allow those in
17 agriculture to perform many other tasks, including applications of crop inputs such as
18 herbicides, fungicides, and insecticides from agricultural drones; and

19 WHEREAS, administrative regulations promulgated decades ago by the Federal
20 Aviation Administration to regulate aerial crop input applications via airplanes or
21 helicopters have served as the basis for regulations related to agricultural drones to this
22 day; and

23 WHEREAS, federal regulations often evolve slowly and do not keep pace with
24 ever-advancing technologies available for farming operations, and some regulations can
25 be complicated and prohibitive for those who wish to build businesses involving
26 agricultural drones;

27 NOW, THEREFORE,

1 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the*
2 *Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3 ➔Section 1. The House of Representatives hereby urges the Federal Aviation
4 Administration to regularly update its administrative regulations pertaining to agricultural
5 unmanned aircraft systems in an expeditious manner so as to keep pace with rapidly
6 changing technological advancements. Regulations for agricultural drones should also be
7 straightforward and sensible, so that all who wish to use such devices may do so with
8 ease.

9 ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a
10 copy of this Resolution to the Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence
11 Avenue SW, Washington, District of Columbia 20591.