

1 A RESOLUTION petitioning the Congress of the United States to enact legislation
2 to provide incentives for existing and future employers in the Southeastern Kentucky
3 Promise Zone covering Clay, Leslie, Harlan, Perry, Bell, Letcher, Knox, and Whitley
4 Counties which would encourage economic growth.

5 WHEREAS, the people of Clay, Leslie, Harlan, Perry, Bell, Letcher, Knox, and
6 Whitley Counties have provided, by hard physical labor and sacrifice, the energy to build
7 the economy of the United States; and

8 WHEREAS, the people in these counties have experienced a significant economic
9 upheaval due to diminished use of coal as a power source; and

10 WHEREAS, the prospects for a return of the region's once booming coal-based
11 economy are increasingly remote; and

12 WHEREAS, the region needs to increasingly rely on jobs created by industries
13 disconnected from coal mining; and

14 WHEREAS, the region will require time to develop a new economic base to replace
15 the loss of mining; and

16 WHEREAS, the Promise Zone Initiative plan exists to create a better bargain for
17 the middle class by partnering with local communities and businesses to create jobs,
18 increase economic security, expand educational opportunities, increase access to quality,
19 provide affordable housing, and improve public safety; and

20 WHEREAS, the private sector has been encouraged to develop jobs and grow small
21 businesses by leveraging \$1.3 million of private sector funds in a revolving loan fund
22 targeted within the Promise Zone; and

23 WHEREAS, government-sponsored economic incentives have a long history of
24 furthering economic development when combined with public and private capital
25 investments;

26 NOW, THEREFORE,

27 ***Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the***

1 ***Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

2 ➔Section 1. Due to their decades of service in the mines of Southeastern
3 Kentucky providing cheap energy for the good of the United States, the citizens of Clay,
4 Leslie, Harlan, Perry, Bell, Letcher, Knox, and Whitley Counties should receive a
5 reciprocal investment for their economic good by the federal government.

6 ➔Section 2. The Congress of the United States should expeditiously implement a
7 system of government incentives to further encourage private sector job creation by
8 employers within the federal Promise Zone containing Clay, Leslie, Harlan, Perry, Bell,
9 Letcher, Knox, and Whitley Counties.

10 ➔Section 3. The incentives so created should be adequate to not only retain
11 existing employment, but also encourage existing employers who have demonstrated a
12 commitment to the Promise Zone region to expand operations and retain additional
13 employees.

14 ➔Section 4. The incentives should include tax cuts for expenses associated with
15 employing workers and industry investment in the Southeastern Kentucky Promise Zone;
16 include provisions exempting Promise Zone workers from federal taxes commonly
17 deducted from wages; and include provisions to exempt employers in the Promise Zone
18 from paying federal payroll and Social Security taxes.

19 ➔Section 5. The Clerk of the House of Representatives shall send a copy of this
20 Resolution to each member of the Kentucky delegation in the Congress of the United
21 States.