

1 A RESOLUTION recognizing February 20, 2020, as Childhood Cancer Awareness
2 Day in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

3 WHEREAS, one in 285 children in the United States will be diagnosed with cancer
4 by their 20th birthday; and

5 WHEREAS, 43 children per day, or 15,780 children, are diagnosed with cancer
6 annually in the United States; and

7 WHEREAS, there are approximately 40,000 children on active cancer treatment at
8 any given time; and

9 WHEREAS, 80 percent of childhood cancer patients are diagnosed late and with
10 metastatic disease; and

11 WHEREAS, on average, there has been a 0.6 percent increase in incidence per year
12 since the mid 1970s, resulting in an overall incidence increase of 24 percent over the last
13 40 years; and

14 WHEREAS, in Kentucky, through state funding researchers have discovered an 87
15 percent higher incidence of pediatric brain tumors—the leading cause of death in
16 pediatric cancer—in a 40-county area of the Commonwealth; and

17 WHEREAS, two-thirds of childhood cancer patients will have chronic health
18 conditions as a result of their treatment toxicity, and approximately one-half of childhood
19 cancer families rate the associated financial toxicity due to out-of-pocket expenses as
20 considerable to severe; and

21 WHEREAS, in the last 20 years, only four new drugs have been approved by the
22 Food and Drug Administration to specifically treat childhood cancer; and

23 WHEREAS, the National Cancer Institute recognizes the unique research needs of
24 childhood cancer and the associated need for increased funding to carry this out; and

25 WHEREAS, hundreds of nonprofit organizations at the local and national level,
26 including the American Childhood Cancer Organization, are helping children with cancer
27 and their families cope through educational, emotional, and financial support; and

1 WHEREAS, researchers and healthcare professionals work diligently, dedicating
2 their expertise to treat and cure children with cancer; and

3 WHEREAS, too many children are affected by this deadly disease, and more must
4 be done to raise awareness and find a cure;

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 House of Representatives recognizes February 20, 2020, as
9 Childhood Cancer Awareness Day in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

10 ➔Section 2. The House of Representatives encourages young people fighting
11 cancer, honors young people who have lost their lives to childhood cancer, and expresses
12 gratitude to the doctors and nurses who provide special care to patients and families
13 affected by childhood cancer.

14 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a
15 copy of this Resolution to Representative Wilson Stone.