

A RESOLUTION declaring February 17, 2016, Kentucky Hospice Day.

WHEREAS, the goal of hospice care is to affirm life and improve the quality of a patient's last days by offering comfort and dignity; and

WHEREAS, hospice provides an option for individuals with terminal illnesses to be cared for as they choose in their final days, often in their own homes and surrounded by the love of their families; and

WHEREAS, hospice deals with the emotional, social, and spiritual impact of the disease on the patient and the patient's family and friends; and

WHEREAS, hospice programs exist in the hope and belief that, through appropriate care and the promotion of a caring community sensitive to their needs, patients and families may be free to attain a degree of mental and spiritual preparation for death that is satisfactory for them; and

WHEREAS, today there are more than 5,000 hospice programs in the United States, Puerto Rico, and Guam; and

WHEREAS, hospice programs care for over one million Americans each year; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky hospice organizations care for over 20,000 patients each year; and

WHEREAS, today there are 22 hospice facilities faithfully treating terminally ill patients across the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the entire Commonwealth is grateful for the work of our dedicated doctors, nurses, counselors, social workers, and volunteers who provide quality hospice care to our fellow Kentuckians; and

WHEREAS, today we recognize all medical professionals and hospice caregivers who are building a more compassionate society by providing comfort to those most in need;

NOW, THEREFORE,

***Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of***

***Kentucky:***

➔Section 1. This Honorable Body hereby declares February 17, 2016, Kentucky Hospice Day.

➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Kentucky Hospice Association, 305 Ann Street, Suite 308, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.