

1 A RESOLUTION honoring the 1971 Kentucky State University men's basketball
2 team upon the 50th anniversary of their national championship.

3 WHEREAS, the 1971 Kentucky State University men's basketball team repeated as
4 National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics national champions in Kansas City,
5 Missouri; and

6 WHEREAS, the team finished the season at 31-2 and was one of the most dominant
7 teams in the history of the Commonwealth; and

8 WHEREAS, Kentucky State University defeated six-seed Eastern Michigan 102-82
9 in the championship game; and

10 WHEREAS, under the leadership of NAIA Coach of the Year Lucias Mitchell,
11 Kentucky State University outscored opponents 103.4 to 78.1 and outrebounded them 59
12 to 36.1; and

13 WHEREAS, Kentucky State University was led by NCAA Division 2 and NAIA
14 First-Team All-Americans Travis Grant and Elmore Smith. Grant and Smith averaged
15 31.2 and 25.5 points per game and 24.2 and 16.4 rebounds per game, respectively; and

16 WHEREAS, Elmore Smith finished his career as one of the last 20 point/20-
17 rebound per game players in college basketball history, and is the only NCAA player in
18 the top ten for career rebounds who played only three years. He was the third pick in the
19 National Basketball Association Draft by the Buffalo Braves, while William Graham was
20 drafted in the American Basketball Association and National Basketball Association
21 drafts;

22 NOW, THEREFORE,

23 ***Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of***
24 ***Kentucky:***

25 ➔Section 1. The members of the Senate, individually and collectively, hereby
26 honor the 1971 Kentucky State University men's basketball team, and rightfully
27 congratulate them on the 50th anniversary of their national championship.

1 ➔Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor of the 1971
2 Kentucky State University men's basketball team.

3 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
4 Resolution to Senator Adrienne Southworth for delivery.