

A RESOLUTION honoring the McConnell Center on the occasion of its 25th anniversary in 2016.

WHEREAS, the McConnell Center was established in 1991 by United States Senator Mitch McConnell and the University of Louisville; and

WHEREAS, Senator McConnell, a 1964 graduate of the University of Louisville, founded the center on the notion that "Kentucky's future depends on inspiring talented, motivated leaders"; and

WHEREAS, since its inception, the McConnell Center has helped to educate and change the lives of more than 200 McConnell Scholars and has awarded more than 3.5 million dollars in scholarships. It has also provided thousands of hours of professional development to Kentucky's teachers and has been named by the American Council of Trustees and Alumni "an oasis of excellence in higher education"; and

WHEREAS, today the McConnell Center consists of the McConnell Scholars Program, a society of 40 elite University of Louisville undergraduates who are nurtured for leadership; the Public Lecture Series, a selection of lectures, panel discussions, and conferences given by influential thinkers and businesspeople; the Civic Education Program, a series of workshops meant to encourage a deeper understanding of Kentucky history, the United States Constitution, and contemporary issues; the U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell and Secretary Elaine L. Chao Archives, a civic educational gallery and outreach program that uses primary sources to illuminate the public on how the past shapes the present; and the Strategic Broadening Seminar for the United States Army which enhances soldiers' ability to think broadly and strategically; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, the McConnell Center will celebrate its 25th anniversary by hosting a series of public events on the theme of "Citizens and Statesmen," once again demonstrating the profound and lasting importance the McConnell Center has earned within our Commonwealth, our country, and our world;

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

➔Section 1. The members of the Senate hereby honor the McConnell Center upon the occasion of its 25th anniversary, grant best wishes to all the McConnell Scholars who continue to benefit from the center's timeless mission, and offer rightful congratulations to Senator Mitch McConnell and to all those at the University of Louisville who have worked to make the McConnell Center a beacon of educational and civic engagement.

➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Senator Julie Raque Adams for delivery.