

1 A RESOLUTION calling for the restoration of the Kentucky River as a navigable
2 waterway.

3 WHEREAS, the Kentucky River runs a course of 250 miles from Beattyville,
4 Kentucky, to the Ohio River in Carrollton, Kentucky; and

5 WHEREAS, the Kentucky River passes through Anderson, Boyle, Carroll, Clark,
6 Estill, Fayette, Franklin, Garrard, Henry, Jessamine, Lee, Lincoln, Madison, Menifee,
7 Mercer, Owen, Powell, Wolfe, and Woodford Counties; and

8 WHEREAS, the Kentucky River provides water supply for 70 public utilities which
9 serve more than 700,000 people and numerous industrial and agricultural uses, recreation,
10 habitat for a diverse array of animal and plant life, tourism, and wastewater disposal, and
11 is a focus of much of the Commonwealth's early history and cultural development; and

12 WHEREAS, the Kentucky River system was once a conduit for the transport of
13 coal, timber, limestone, sand, and other products from the interior of the Commonwealth
14 to the mighty Ohio River; and

15 WHEREAS, in recent decades the role of the Kentucky River has diminished to
16 primarily recreational activities, while commercial opportunities have been passed over;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, full navigability of the Kentucky River system is important to future
19 recreational and commercial development of the Commonwealth; and

20 WHEREAS, this future development including the development of a Kentucky
21 River Water Trail is threatened by the deterioration of the system of locks and dams,
22 which maintains water levels sufficient to foster the river's potential;

23 NOW, THEREFORE,

24 ***Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the***
25 ***Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

26 ➔Section 1. This august body recognizes the Kentucky River as a vital economic
27 development, water supply, and tourism resource.

1 ➔Section 2. The Kentucky River Authority is encouraged to facilitate
2 increasing use and full navigability of this resource through maintenance of locks and
3 dams on the Kentucky River.

4 ➔Section 3. The Kentucky River Authority is encouraged to work with public
5 and private organizations to preserve and enhance the Kentucky River's future as a water
6 source, recreational resource, and economic development asset.