

A RESOLUTION recognizing the publication of *The Kentucky African American Encyclopedia* and its editors, Gerald L. Smith, Karen Cotton McDaniel, and John A. Hardin.

WHEREAS, *The Kentucky African American Encyclopedia* was published by the University Press of Kentucky in August 2015; and

WHEREAS, *The Kentucky African American Encyclopedia* is a vital addition to the ongoing narrative of black history in this Commonwealth. Serving as both a reference guide to the history of African Americans in Kentucky and as a celebration of those thinkers, intellectuals, leaders, teachers, doctors, and champions of civil rights who have helped shape this Commonwealth since its birth, the book begins in the earliest moments of this Commonwealth's history with such black luminaries as Jack Hart, who helped Daniel Boone in his early exploration of the state, and continues through to modern Kentuckians such as Willa Brown Chappell, the first African American female to receive a pilot's license in the United States; and

WHEREAS, *The Kentucky African American Encyclopedia* was published to much praise and acclaim. *Library Journal* said that the work "will be the standard on the subject and deserves consideration not only in Kentucky libraries but also in any setting where there is interest about African American history"; and

WHEREAS, co-editors Gerald L. Smith, Karen Cotton McDaniel, and John A. Hardin worked for more than ten years to complete this book, using published sources as well as amateur historians to help them tell the extraordinary stories of these often-forgotten men and women; and

WHEREAS, this honorable body commends these historians for their years of hard work, and acknowledges the significant place in history that all the men and women included in *The Kentucky African American Encyclopedia* rightfully deserve;

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 recognize *The Kentucky African American Encyclopedia* and its editors, Gerald L. Smith, Karen Cotton McDaniel, and John A. Hardin, and congratulate all those who helped bring this book into the world for their contribution to the deep tradition of African American culture in this Commonwealth.

➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Senator Gerald A. Neal for delivery.