

1 A RESOLUTION adjourning the Senate in honor and loving memory of Barbara
2 "B." Smith.

3 WHEREAS, Barbara Smith was born in Everson, Pennsylvania, on August 24,
4 1949; and

5 WHEREAS, a steelworker's daughter, she would go on to become one of the most
6 influential African American models of the 20th century, and her legacy is still being felt
7 to this day; and

8 WHEREAS, affectionately known as "B.," Barbara Smith was an early trailblazer in
9 a field of work that has historically been off limits to minorities; and

10 WHEREAS, an author, magazine founder, cover model, and restaurateur, B. Smith
11 signed her first modeling contract with the famous Wilhelmina Agency in 1976. She went
12 on to become one of the first African American models to appear on the cover of
13 *Mademoiselle*, and her illustrious modeling career led her to the restaurant business. In
14 1986, she opened her first restaurant in New York's Theater District, followed by a
15 second in Union Station in 1994; and

16 WHEREAS, in 2013, B. Smith was diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's disease,
17 and she became, along with her caretaker and husband, Dan Gasby, a passionate advocate
18 for those suffering with the disease; and

19 WHEREAS, Barbara "B." Smith departed this earthly life on February 22, 2020,
20 leaving an entire Nation in solemn mourning; and

21 WHEREAS, B. Smith is survived by her husband, Dan Gasby; stepdaughter, Dana;
22 two brothers; and a host of other family members, friends, and loved ones who will dearly
23 miss her presence in their lives;

24 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

27 ➔Section 1. The members of the Senate hereby express their most profound

1 sympathy upon the passing of Barbara "B." Smith, and acknowledge her profound
2 contributions to the African American experience in this country.

3 ➔Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor of Barbara
4 "B." Smith.

5 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
6 Resolution to Senator Gerald A. Neal for delivery.