

1 A RESOLUTION recognizing National Burn Awareness Week and the Burn Center
2 at the University of Louisville Hospital.

3 WHEREAS, burn injuries continue to be one of the leading causes of accidental
4 death and injury in our Nation where tragically, children, the elderly, and the disabled are
5 especially vulnerable to burn injuries, and almost one-third of all burn injuries occur in
6 children under the age of 15; and

7 WHEREAS, in the United States, the CDC reports 276,086 people received medical
8 care for treatment of unintentional burn injuries in 2020, with 3,028 deaths from fire and
9 smoke inhalation. According to reports made to the American Burn Association registry,
10 91,875 people were treated in hospitals for burn-related injuries with 32% of those being
11 for scalds; and

12 WHEREAS, compared to the overall population, children under five were twice as
13 likely to be seen for burn injuries at a hospital emergency department. Young adults ages
14 20 to 29 had 1.4 times the risk, and those in the 30-39 age group had 1.3 times the risk of
15 the general population; and

16 WHEREAS, the primary causes of burn injury include fire flames, scalds, contact
17 with hot objects, and electrical and chemical burns. Most of the injuries occur in the
18 home. Today, 96.8% of those who suffer burn injuries will survive. Unfortunately, many
19 of those survivors will sustain serious scarring, life-long physical disabilities, and
20 adjustment difficulties; and

21 WHEREAS, National Burn Awareness Week, an initiative of the American Burn
22 Association, is a coming together of burn, fire, and life safety educators to make the
23 public aware of the frequency, devastation, and causes of burn injury, as well as
24 consistent and authoritative measures to prevent these injuries and how to best care for
25 those that are injured; and

26 WHEREAS, the theme for 2023 National Burn Awareness Week is "Scalds: Hot
27 Liquids Burn Like Fire!"; and

1 WHEREAS, significant research and medical advances have dramatically improved
2 burn care and treatment, aided rehabilitation, shortened hospital stays, and increased burn
3 survival rates. Aftercare support for the physical and emotional effects of burn injuries
4 has also played a key role in the successful reintegration of burn survivors into our
5 communities. Furthermore, burn safety education and prevention efforts continue to
6 reduce the number of people who suffer burns each year; and

7 WHEREAS, many people devote their lives and careers to treating, caring for,
8 supporting, and rehabilitating burn injury survivors, including those performing vital
9 work in burn research and development. There are dedicated firefighters who risk their
10 own lives every day to protect others, as well as burn foundations and other life safety
11 professionals who promote burn injury awareness and prevention; and

12 WHEREAS, the University of Louisville Hospital is home to the only dedicated
13 adult burn center in the Commonwealth, with a multidisciplinary team that cares for
14 patients with chemical, electrical, flame/thermal, and scald burns. The Burn Center
15 proudly offers a state-of-the-art, 16-bed unit to serve the needs of the community, the
16 ability to provide care through all levels of treatment, a specially-trained burn staff, a
17 hydrotherapy room, outpatient care, and scar revision; and

18 WHEREAS, the Burn Center's services include trauma surgery, plastic surgery,
19 registered nurses, physical therapy, occupational therapy, burn technicians, speech
20 therapy, social services, psychiatry, nutritional assistance, addictive medicine care, and
21 chaplaincy services; and

22 WHEREAS, the University of Louisville Hospital has also established an outpatient
23 burn clinic, which proudly offers services including evidence-based treatment options,
24 long-term burn care, scar management devices, telehealth capability, and other resources
25 offered by the hospital's outpatient rehabilitation services including Travis, the facility's
26 therapy dog; and

27 WHEREAS, the University of Louisville Hospital offers a trauma support group

1 dedicated to providing a safe place for trauma survivors and their loved ones in their
2 recovery process, an Advance Burn Life Support (ABLS) certification course for
3 healthcare professionals which provides guidelines in the assessment and management of
4 burn patients during the first 24 hours after an injury, multiple burn care education
5 courses, and a Stay Safe program for youth ages 8 to 17 with the goal of modifying high-
6 risk behavior, reducing the recurrence rate of adolescent fire experimentation, and
7 providing general knowledge about fire safety and burn injuries;

8 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

11 ➔Section 1. The Senate hereby recognizes the week of February 5-11, 2023, as
12 National Burn Awareness Week.

13 ➔Section 2. The Senate hereby honors and applauds the work of the Burn Center
14 at the University of Louisville Hospital.

15 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
16 Resolution to Senator Gerald Neal for presentation to the University of Louisville
17 Hospital.