

1 A RESOLUTION recognizing Childhood Cancer Awareness Day on January 23,
2 2020.

3 WHEREAS, childhood cancer is the leading cause of death by disease in children;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, one in 285 children in the United States will be diagnosed by their
6 20th birthday; and

7 WHEREAS, 43 children per day or 15,780 children annually are diagnosed with
8 cancer in the United States; and

9 WHEREAS, there are approximately 40,000 children on active treatment at any
10 given time; and

11 WHEREAS, the average age of diagnosis is six years old, compared to 66 years for
12 adult cancer diagnosis; and

13 WHEREAS, 80 percent of childhood cancer patients are diagnosed late and with
14 metastatic disease; and

15 WHEREAS, on average, there's been a 0.6 percent increase in incidence per year
16 since the mid-1970s, resulting in an overall incidence increase of 24 percent over the last
17 40 years; and

18 WHEREAS, in Kentucky, through state funding researchers have discovered an 87
19 percent higher incidence of pediatric brain tumors—the leading cause of death in
20 pediatric cancer—in a 40-county area of the Commonwealth; and

21 WHEREAS, two-thirds of childhood cancer patients will have chronic health
22 conditions as a result of their treatment toxicity, with one-quarter being classified as
23 severe to life-threatening; and

24 WHEREAS, approximately one-half of childhood cancer families rate the
25 associated financial toxicity due to out-of-pocket expenses as considerable to severe; and

26 WHEREAS, in the last 20 years, only four new drugs have been approved by the
27 FDA to specifically treat childhood cancer; and

1 WHEREAS, the National Cancer Institute recognizes the unique research needs of
2 childhood cancer and the associated need for increased funding to carry this out; and

3 WHEREAS, hundreds of nonprofit organizations at the local and national level,
4 including the American Childhood Cancer Organization, are helping children with cancer
5 and their families cope through educational, emotional, and financial support; and

6 WHEREAS, researchers and healthcare professionals work diligently dedicating
7 their expertise to treat and cure children with cancer; and

8 WHEREAS, too many children are affected by this deadly disease, and more must
9 be done to raise awareness and to find a cure;

10 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

13 ➔Section 1. The Senate hereby recognizes January 23, 2020, as Childhood Cancer
14 Awareness Day in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

15 ➔Section 2. The Senate encourages young people fighting cancer, honors young
16 people who have lost their lives to childhood cancer, and expresses gratitude to the
17 doctors and nurses who provide special care to patients and families affected by
18 childhood cancer.

19 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
20 Resolution to Senator Max Wise.