

1           A RESOLUTION honoring Senator Ernie Harris upon his retirement from the  
2 Senate.

3           WHEREAS, Senator Ernie Harris, a native of Oldham County, graduated from the  
4 University of Kentucky with a BA in Business Administration and received a Master's  
5 degree in Management from Webster University; and

6           WHEREAS, Senator Ernie Harris served his country as a pilot in the United States  
7 Air Force, retiring with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, and after his retirement was a  
8 pilot for United Parcel Service; and

9           WHEREAS, Senator Ernie Harris is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, Farm  
10 Bureau, and also belongs to the American Legion, Post 39. He also previously served on  
11 the board of directors of the Oldham County Fair Association; and

12           WHEREAS, Senator Ernie Harris was first elected to the Kentucky Senate in 1994,  
13 representing the 26th District, which currently encompasses Oldham County and part of  
14 northern Jefferson County; and

15           WHEREAS, Senator Ernie Harris is perhaps best known for his tenure as Chairman  
16 of the Senate Transportation Committee, where he oversees transportation legislation as  
17 well as the Transportation Cabinet budget and the state's highway construction plan. He  
18 also currently serves on the Economic Development, Tourism and Labor Committee and  
19 the Veterans, Military Affairs, and Public Protection Committee; and

20           WHEREAS, Senator Ernie Harris has sponsored several important pieces of  
21 legislation during his tenure, including bills overhauling and modernizing the licensing  
22 system for motor carriers, and ensuring the security of driver's licenses and personal ID  
23 cards; and

24           WHEREAS, Senator Ernie Harris recently announced his intention to retire from  
25 the Senate at the conclusion of the 2020 Regular Session, and it is fitting and proper that  
26 his exemplary service to the Commonwealth be publicly recognized; and

27           WHEREAS, Senator Ernie Harris' tireless work on behalf of his constituents is

1 justly acknowledged, and for his 24 years of service to this body, for the countless hours  
2 he has spent working on behalf of his beloved district, and for his achievements as a  
3 human being of the first order, he is commended and granted best wishes as he begins a  
4 new chapter of his life; and

5 WHEREAS, while Senator Ernie Harris may be leaving this august body, he will  
6 forever remain "the Gentleman from Oldham," and, even as he transitions to the life of a  
7 gentleman farmer with his wife, Margy, and the 5 adult children and 11 grandchildren  
8 they share, he will always be held in the highest esteem by not just the members of the  
9 Senate, but all members and staff of the General Assembly;

10 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

13 ➔Section 1. The members of the Senate hereby salute the Senator from Oldham  
14 26, Senator Ernie Harris; express their sincere appreciation for his service to his  
15 community, the General Assembly, and the Commonwealth of Kentucky; and wish him  
16 Godspeed as he awaits new and exciting challenges.

17 ➔Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor of Senator  
18 Ernie Harris.

19 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this  
20 Resolution to Senate President Robert Stivers II for presentation to Senator Ernie Harris.