

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION relating to the establishment of the Penal Code
2 Reform Task Force.

3 WHEREAS, Kentucky adopted its current penal code in 1974, after years of study;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, the penal code has not been revised systematically in 50 years; and

6 WHEREAS, the accumulation of small changes over that time has made the penal
7 code less clear and less coherent;

8 NOW, THEREFORE,

9 ***Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the***
10 ***Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Senate concurring therein:***

11 ➔Section 1. The Legislative Research Commission is hereby directed to create
12 the Penal Code Reform Task Force to study Kentucky's criminal statutes, both within the
13 penal code and without, and develop recommendations for Kentucky's substantive and
14 procedural criminal statutes, including sentencing, probation, and parole.

15 ➔Section 2. The Penal Code Reform Task Force shall be composed of the
16 following members, with final membership of the task force being subject to the
17 consideration and approval of the Legislative Research Commission.

18 (1) Two members of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker
19 of the House, one of whom shall be designated to serve as co-chair;

20 (2) Two members of the Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate,
21 one of whom shall be designated to serve as co-chair;

22 (3) One member of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Minority
23 Floor Leader of the House;

24 (4) One member of the Senate to be appointed by the Minority Floor Leader of
25 the Senate;

26 (5) The Attorney General or his or her designee;

27 (6) The Public Advocate or his or her designee;

1 (7) The commissioner of the Department of Juvenile Justice, or his or her
2 designee;

3 (8) The commissioner of the Department of Kentucky State Police, or his or her
4 designee;

5 (9) An employee of the Department of Criminal Justice Training, appointed by
6 the secretary of the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet;

7 (10) A judge or justice of the Kentucky Court of Justice, appointed by the Chief
8 Justice of the Kentucky Supreme Court;

9 (11) A member of the Commonwealth's Attorneys Association, appointed by the
10 association;

11 (12) A member of the County Attorneys Association, appointed by the association;

12 (13) A member of the Kentucky Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers,
13 appointed by the association;

14 (14) A member of the Fraternal Order of Police, appointed by the association;

15 (15) A member of the Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police, appointed by the
16 association;

17 (16) A member of the Kentucky Jailers' Association, appointed by the association;

18 (17) A faculty member of the University of Kentucky J. David Rosenberg College
19 of Law, appointed by the dean of the college;

20 (18) A faculty member of the University of Louisville Louis D. Brandeis School of
21 Law, appointed by the dean of the school; and

22 (19) A faculty member of the Salmon P. Chase College of Law at Northern
23 Kentucky University, appointed by the dean of the college.

24 ➔Section 3. The Penal Code Reform Task Force shall meet at least three times
25 during the 2024 Interim and shall submit its findings, legislative recommendations, or a
26 memorandum to the Legislative Research Commission no later than December 1, 2024
27 for referral to the Interim Joint Committee on Judiciary. If legislative recommendations

1 are submitted, the Legislative Research Commission may refer the recommendations to
2 the appropriate committee or committees of jurisdiction in advance of the 2025 Regular
3 Session of the Kentucky General Assembly.

4 ➔Section 4. Provisions of this Resolution to the contrary notwithstanding, the
5 Legislative Research Commission shall have the authority to alternatively assign the
6 issues identified herein to an interim joint committee or subcommittee thereof, and to
7 designate a study completion date.