

1       A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION directing the establishment of the Kentucky  
2       Housing Task Force.

3       WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Kentucky continues to be a desired location for  
4       individuals and families to live, but the lack of housing places a severe strain on many  
5       Kentucky individuals and families making it difficult for individuals and families to  
6       thrive, and threatens the survival of our most vulnerable; and

7       WHEREAS, access to housing provides security and enhanced opportunities for a  
8       strong economy, job creation, and is an essential element to ensure current residents and  
9       generations to come are able to live, work, and stay in Kentucky communities; and

10       WHEREAS, the ability to achieve the American dream of homeownership and  
11       permanent housing allows individuals and families the opportunity to build equity,  
12       accumulate wealth, foster community relationships, and access health and educational  
13       services that elevate the well-being of individuals, communities, businesses, and the  
14       economy at large; and

15       WHEREAS, the demand for housing is increasing and outpaces the available  
16       supply of housing in Kentucky, shown by the fact that the average number of housing  
17       units sold has decreased in recent by over 16 percent annually, while the median sales  
18       price continues to increase by over four percent annually according to the Kentucky  
19       Association of Realtors. As prices rise and the supply decreases, Kentuckians are without  
20       options for home ownership and must rely on rental options or living farther away from  
21       their employment, family, or desired communities; and

22       WHEREAS, the increased demand for housing has widened gaps in disparity as  
23       demonstrated by the shortage of over 78,000 rental homes for extremely low-income  
24       renters in Kentucky as reported by the National Low-Income Housing Coalition; and

25       WHEREAS, affordable housing is often defined as that for which a resident is  
26       utilizing 30 percent of available income on total housing costs, and this benchmark that  
27       has become increasingly difficult for individuals and families to achieve while facing

1 multiple economic pressures outside of their control; and

2 WHEREAS, affordable housing is only one component of obtaining permanent  
3 housing. The shortage of housing represents a continuum of unmet demand for all  
4 persons and impacts many Kentuckians, including individuals experiencing  
5 homelessness, those seeking stable rental housing, individuals seeking first-time  
6 homeownership, and aging populations with changing needs; and

7 WHEREAS, the housing needs of Kentucky are not singular and encompass  
8 providing accessibility to work, school, and healthcare; adequate and safe living  
9 conditions, appropriate for the needs of the community; and an available supply to meet  
10 the diverse socioeconomic needs of individuals and families; and

11 WHEREAS, the ecosystem of housing is complex and relies on many pillars that  
12 operate interdependently. The housing crisis does not have one simple solution, but  
13 provides the Commonwealth a complex problem that requires a multifaceted approach to  
14 identify actions available to work toward a solution;

15 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

18 ➔Section 1. (1) The Legislative Research Commission shall establish the  
19 Kentucky Housing Task Force. The task force shall study, review, and make  
20 recommendations regarding the current and future policy needs of the state to address  
21 access and availability of housing to the citizens of the Commonwealth, including but not  
22 limited to:

23 (a) A demographic analysis of housing costs, population, and employment  
24 opportunities statewide and regionally in Kentucky;

25 (b) A comprehensive review of state and local laws, regulations, policies, and  
26 procedures that affect housing;

27 (c) Analysis of the availability and accessibility of housing to include

1 examination of the costs of housing, utilities, and access to healthcare;

2 (d) Evaluate land use, zoning, infrastructure, and community planning to identify  
3 barriers that impede the development and availability of accessible, adequate, and  
4 affordable housing; and

5 (e) Examine efforts and policy changes in other states and municipalities to  
6 address increasing housing supply and encourage homeownership.

7 (2) In development of policy recommendations and strategies, the task force shall  
8 seek input from organizations and associations whose members are impacted by housing  
9 policy, advisory groups, researchers, and appropriate stakeholders as determined by the  
10 task force; and

11 ➔Section 2. The task force shall be composed of the following 10 members, with  
12 final membership of the task force being subject to the consideration and approval of the  
13 Legislative Research Commission:

14 (1) Four members of the Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate,  
15 one of whom shall be designated as a co-chair of the task force by the President of the  
16 Senate;

17 (2) One member of the Senate, to be appointed by the Minority Floor Leader of  
18 the Senate;

19 (3) Four members of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker  
20 of the House of Representatives, one of whom shall be designated as a co-chair of the  
21 task force by the Speaker of the House; and

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

24 ➔Section 3. The Kentucky Housing Task Force shall meet at least monthly  
25 during the 2024 Interim of the General Assembly. The task force shall submit findings  
26 and recommendations to the Legislative Research Commission for referral to the  
27 appropriate committee or subcommittee thereof by December 1, 2024.

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