

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION directing the establishment of the Kentucky
2 Restoration of Voting Rights Task Force.

3 WHEREAS, the right to vote is a foundational principle of American democracy,
4 reinforcing civic responsibility and engagement; and

5 WHEREAS, Section 145 of the Constitution of Kentucky excludes individuals
6 convicted of a felony from the right of suffrage; and

7 WHEREAS, many Kentuckians who have completed their sentences have
8 demonstrated a commitment to reentering society as law-abiding and productive citizens;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, the current process for restoring voting rights is often complex and
11 inefficient, creating unnecessary obstacles for individuals seeking to fully reintegrate into
12 their communities; and

13 WHEREAS, promoting responsible civic participation through an efficient, fair,
14 and secure voting rights restoration process strengthens public trust in government and
15 the electoral system; and

16 WHEREAS, there is a need to ensure that any changes to voting rights restoration
17 are carefully considered, maintaining a balance between accountability, fairness, and
18 election integrity; and

19 WHEREAS, Kentucky has an interest in reviewing and refining its approach to
20 voting rights restoration while upholding the security and credibility of its electoral
21 process;

22 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

25 ➔Section 1. The Legislative Research Commission shall establish the Restoration
26 of Voting Rights Task Force. The task force shall review, study, and make
27 recommendations regarding the current language of the Constitution relating to the right

1 to vote, and possible constitutional amendments or statutory changes to restore voting
2 rights to individuals with felony convictions who have completed their sentences. The
3 task force shall review existing laws and proposed amendments regarding voting rights
4 restoration, seek input from impacted individuals and experts, and develop
5 recommendations for legislative or constitutional amendments to be considered by the
6 General Assembly.

7 ➔Section 2. The task force shall be composed of the following members with
8 final membership of the task force being subject to the consideration and approval of the
9 Legislative Research Commission:

10 (1) Two members of the House of Representatives, one of whom shall be
11 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and shall serve as co-chair of
12 the task force, and one of whom shall be appointed by the Minority Floor Leader of the
13 House of Representatives;

14 (2) Two members of the Senate, one of whom shall be appointed by the President
15 of the Senate and shall serve as co-chair of the task force, and one of whom shall be
16 appointed by the Minority Floor Leader of the Senate;

17 (3) The Secretary of State, or his or her designee;

18 (4) The Attorney General, or his or her designee;

19 (5) A representative from the Department of Corrections, appointed by the
20 commissioner of the Department of Corrections;

21 (6) A representative from the State Board of Elections, appointed by the
22 executive director of the State Board of Elections;

23 (7) A representative from an organization that advocates for the rights of citizens
24 who have recently been released from incarceration and are returning to society,
25 appointed by the Governor; and

26 (8) A representative from a victims' rights advocacy organization, appointed by
27 the Attorney General.

1 ➔Section 3. The task force shall meet at least monthly during the 2025 Interim of
2 the General Assembly unless otherwise directed by the commission, and shall be staffed
3 by the Legislative Research Commission.

4 ➔Section 4. The task force shall submit a report of its findings and
5 recommendations to the Legislative Research Commission no later than December 1,
6 2025, for referral to the General Assembly and consideration in the 2026 Regular
7 Session.

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