

1 A RESOLUTION recognizing and honoring Community Farm Alliance upon its
2 35th anniversary.

3 WHEREAS, July 2020 marks the 35th anniversary of the founding of Community
4 Farm Alliance, an organization devoted to improving the quality of life in rural and urban
5 communities, holding institutions accountable, fostering the development of policies and
6 programs that reflect needs and priorities of Kentucky communities, and creating
7 participatory economic development systems; and

8 WHEREAS, Community Farm Alliance has grown from assisting cash-strapped
9 farmers in the mid-1980s to one that today is involved in the local foods movement,
10 works to promote meaningful agriculture legislation, involves itself in food policy and
11 farm-to-table initiatives, and that focuses attention on helping Appalachia develop its
12 local food and farm production; and

13 WHEREAS, the organization was founded when a group of farmers from several
14 different Kentucky counties met for the first time in Bardstown and began the
15 organization process; and

16 WHEREAS, in the subsequent years, when many farmers throughout the nation
17 were struggling in the midst of the 1980s farm crisis, Community Farm Alliance took
18 steps to establish a suicide hotline, worked on farm credit legislation, and even distributed
19 free seed corn to needy Kentucky farm families; and

20 WHEREAS, heading into the 1990s, Community Farm Alliance took an active role
21 in organic certification and became involved in water quality issues, healthcare, tobacco
22 reinvestment, dairy issues, and concentrated animal feeding operations siting; and

23 WHEREAS, Community Farm Alliance worked to see through the passage of
24 House Bill 611 in the 2000 legislative session, landmark legislation dealing with the
25 Commonwealth's recognition of the tobacco settlement agreement; and

26 WHEREAS, the organization has worked on other legislation as well, much of it
27 aimed at assisting small and first-time farmers; and

1 WHEREAS, in recent years, Community Farm Alliance has recognized the ever-
2 changing landscape of agriculture and has offered its voice to the legalization of industrial
3 hemp as a cash crop, access to affordable healthcare, and has worked to support farmers'
4 markets, to place locally grown food in state parks and schools, and help farmers supply
5 fresh food to food banks; and

6 WHEREAS, with collaboration from many partners, Community Farm Alliance
7 facilitates successful Farmers Market Support and Kentucky Double Dollars programs
8 that increase income for Kentucky farmers and increase access to local food; and

9 WHEREAS, Community Farm Alliance continues to work toward the development
10 of a farm system based on food and fiber produced in a manner that is socially,
11 economically, and ecologically sustainable;

12 NOW, THEREFORE,

13 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*
14 *Kentucky:*

15 ➔Section 1. The Senate commends Community Farm Alliance for its hard-won
16 successes and accomplishments these past 35 years, and wishes the organization much
17 success in the years to come.

18 ➔Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor of Community
19 Farm Alliance.

20 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
21 Resolution to Senator Paul Hornback.