

1 A RESOLUTION honoring the 200th anniversary of the founding of the Dominican
2 Sisters of St. Catharine.

3 WHEREAS, in 1822, nine women came together to found the first congregation of
4 Dominican Sisters in the United States in Washington County, Kentucky; and

5 WHEREAS, of the nine founding Sisters, five were teenagers at the time of
6 founding. Sister Mary Louise said of the Sisters, "there was a lot of innocence but also a
7 lot of energy. Before they even got here, they had this idea of sisterhood"; and

8 WHEREAS, the Dominican Sisters bettered the lives of many they encountered,
9 were often asked to serve in other states, and made lasting impressions on many of their
10 students; and

11 WHEREAS, the Sisters faced many hardships, including several pandemics, and
12 were at one point advised to disband when they owed a \$2,000 debt. Instead of
13 succumbing to despair they persevered by making candles and soap, and ironing; and

14 WHEREAS, the Sisters were happy helping their community, teaching their
15 students, and serving God; and

16 WHEREAS, in 1904, the Sisters experienced a tragic fire that burned down their
17 original motherhouse. When advised to move their location to Louisville, the Sisters
18 voted to stay in Washington County because they wanted to be near the community they
19 had grown to be a part of; and

20 WHEREAS, the Sisters are continuing their dedication and devotion to the
21 community started by their founders; and

22 WHEREAS, what started as a little seed planted 200 years ago has grown into a
23 legacy recognized worldwide;

24 NOW, THEREFORE,

25 ***Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of***
26 ***Kentucky:***

27 ➔Section 1. The Senate does hereby recognize and honor the Dominican Sisters

1 of St. Catharine on their 200th anniversary and commends their continued service.

2 ➔Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor of the
3 Dominican Sisters of St. Catharine for 200 years of dedicated service to their community
4 and God.

5 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
6 Resolution to Senator Higdon for delivery.