

1 A RESOLUTION recognizing the important role the hospitality industry can play in
2 preventing and disrupting child sex trafficking and encouraging Kentucky residents,
3 employees, and agencies to book travel and events at hotels, venues, and travel agencies
4 which are signatories of the Tourism Child-Protection Code of Conduct.

5 WHEREAS, 59% of all human trafficking victims in Kentucky are children; and

6 WHEREAS, an estimated 199,000 incidents of sexual exploitation of minors occur
7 each year in the United States;

8 WHEREAS, between 244,000 and 325,000 American youth are considered at risk
9 for sexual exploitation;

10 WHEREAS, children as young as 12 and 13 are often bought and sold into the sex
11 industry alongside adults; and

12 WHEREAS, the American Hotels and Lodging Association recognizes that
13 trafficking networks often rely on legitimate businesses, including hotels, to sustain their
14 illegal operations and infrastructure; and

15 WHEREAS, one of the most commonly reported venues for sex trafficking to the
16 National Human Trafficking Hotline is hotels and motels; and

17 WHEREAS, 45% of youth victims are exploited in hotels; and

18 WHEREAS, 52% of U.S. hotels have received training to help prevent child sex
19 trafficking; and

20 WHEREAS, hotel employees are more likely to witness human trafficking than the
21 average person and can be trained to recognize and report suspected incidents to the
22 authorities; and

23 WHEREAS, hotel managers and associates who have undergone training are much
24 more aware of child sex trafficking and relevant state law (93%) than those who have not
25 been trained (17%); and

26 WHEREAS, criminal activity presents a great risk for the safety and security of
27 hotel businesses, as well as legitimate hotel customers; and

1 WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Kentucky has a vested interest in the safety of
2 its citizens and visitors and wants to expose any safe havens for child traffickers; and

3 WHEREAS, recommending travel to hospitality and convention venues that
4 actively work to prevent and disrupt child sex trafficking would encourage responsible
5 stewardship and awareness within the hospitality industry; and

6 WHEREAS, the Tourism Child-Protection Code of Conduct is an established
7 initiative to provide support to the travel and tourism industry in preventing the sexual
8 exploitation of children; and

9 WHEREAS, ECPAT-USA training is already available to 40% of the total hotel
10 properties in the United States;

11 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

14 ➔Section 1. Kentucky state residents, employees, and agencies are encouraged to
15 book travel and events at hotels, conference venues, and travel agencies that are
16 signatories of the Tourism Child-Protection Code of Conduct. The Code requires
17 companies to:

- 18 (1) Establish a policy and procedures against sexual exploitation of children.
- 19 (2) Train employees in children's rights, the prevention of sexual exploitation and
20 how to report suspected cases.
- 21 (3) Include a clause in furtherance partner contracts stating a common repudiation
22 and zero tolerance policy of sexual exploitation of children.
- 23 (4) Provide information to travelers on children's rights, the prevention of sexual
24 exploitation and how to report suspected cases.
- 25 (5) Support, collaborate and engage stakeholders in the prevention of sexual
26 exploitation of children.
- 27 (6) Report annually on the company's implementation of Code-related activities.

1 ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
2 Resolution to Governor Matthew G. Bevin, State Capitol, Room 100, Frankfort, KY
3 40601 for distribution to all executive branch agencies.