A JOINT RESOLUTION recommending the creation of WINGS.

WHEREAS, Working Interdisciplinary Networks of Guardianship Stakeholders, otherwise known as WINGS, is an innovative movement to improve adult guardianship; and

WHEREAS, WINGS is a court-community partnership that drives changes affecting the ways courts and guardians practice; and

WHEREAS, WINGS is broad-based and multi-disciplinary, including judges and court staff, the aging and disability networks, the public and private bar, mental health agencies, advocacy groups, medical and mental health professionals, service providers, and family members and individuals affected by guardianship; and

WHEREAS, WINGS is a consensus-driven, problem-solving mechanism that offers a forum for considering how adult guardianship is working in the state, where pressure points exist, and possible solutions; and

WHEREAS, the creation of WINGS by all states was a core recommendation of the 2011 Third National Guardian Summit, sponsored by the ten National Guardianship Network organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Conference of Chief Justices and the Conference of State Court Administrators have urged implementation of WINGS; and

WHEREAS, over 20 states have already created WINGS or similar guardianship stakeholder partnerships;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

Section 1. (1) The General Assembly recommends that the Cabinet for Health and Family Services and the Administrative Office of the Courts create a pilot Working Interdisciplinary Networks of Guardianship Stakeholders, or WINGS, to examine how Kentucky's adult guardianship is working and to identify needed changes.

(2) If created, the General Assembly recommends that the pilot WINGS exist for
at least two years and include one or more of the following partners:

(a) Judges and court staff;
(b) Aging and disability networks;
(c) Public and private bar;
(d) Mental health agencies;
(e) Advocacy groups;
(f) Medical and mental health professionals;
(g) Service providers; or
(h) Family members and individuals affected by guardianship.

(3) The Cabinet for Health and Family Services, in conjunction with the Administrative Office of the Courts, shall report annually any needed adult guardianship changes identified by the pilot WINGS to the Interim Joint Committee on Judiciary by January 1 of each year the pilot is in operation.