



STEVEN L. BESHEAR
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Secretary of State
Frankfort
Kentucky

2009-820
September 2, 2009

**RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY CIVIL WAR
SESQUICENTENNIAL COMMISSION**

WHEREAS, the American Civil War was an event of international importance from 1861 to 1865, affecting all aspects of life in Kentucky during that period; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky was strategically important to both the United States and Confederate States armies as a major provider of labor, troops and supplies; and

WHEREAS, both Abraham Lincoln, who served as President of the United States during this national crisis, and Jefferson Davis, who served as President of the Confederate States of America, were native sons of this Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky was the site for several major battles of the war, including those fought at Perryville, Cynthiana, Middle Creek, Mill Springs, Munfordville, Richmond, Sacramento, Tebbs Bend, and Paducah, with more than 150,000 Kentucky soldiers serving in the United States and Confederate States armies; and

WHEREAS, it is important to understand Kentucky's role as a slave-owning border state; and

WHEREAS, Camp Nelson in Jessamine County served as one of the largest recruiting stations in America for African-American soldiers enlisting in the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate for the Commonwealth of Kentucky to take advantage of a commemoration of the anniversary of this war to advance understanding among modern Kentuckians on our complex past; and

WHEREAS, from 2011 through 2015, this nation will acknowledge the 150th anniversary of the American Civil War:



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NOW THEREFORE, I Steven L. Beshear, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, under the authority vested in me by KRS 12.029 do hereby Order and Direct the following:

- I. There is hereby created the Commonwealth of Kentucky Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission ("Commission"), which shall be attached to the Kentucky Historical Society for administrative purposes. The commission shall be composed of twenty five (25) members as follows:
 - a. Two (2) members of the Kentucky House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
 - b. Two (2) members of the Kentucky Senate, appointed by the President of the Kentucky Senate;
 - c. The Secretary of the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet or designee;
 - d. Two (2) members from the Education Cabinet, at least one (1) of whom represents the Kentucky Department of Libraries and Archives, the Kentucky Department of Education, or Kentucky Educational Television, appointed by the Secretary of the Education Cabinet;
 - e. Three (3) members from the Kentucky Historical Society, appointed by the President of the Kentucky Historical Society;
 - f. One (1) member from the Department of Parks, appointed by the Commissioner of the Department of Parks;
 - g. Two (2) members from the Kentucky Heritage Council, at least one (1) of whom is a member of the Kentucky African-American Heritage Commission or the Underground Railroad Advisory Council, appointed by the Chair of the Kentucky Heritage Council;
 - h. One (1) member from the Kentucky Arts Council, appointed by the Chair of the Kentucky Arts Council;
 - i. One (1) member from the Kentucky Humanities Council, appointed by the Chair of the Kentucky Humanities Council;
 - j. The Adjutant General of the Commonwealth of Kentucky or designee;
 - k. The State Historian as designated by the executive committee of the Kentucky Historical Society;
 - l. One (1) member from the Governor's Office of Minority Empowerment, appointed by the Governor;
 - m. Three (3) members of faculty or staff from Kentucky colleges and universities with a demonstrated interest in local history and knowledge of the Civil War, appointed by the Governor; and
 - n. Four (4) citizen members from the state at large with a demonstrated interest in local history and knowledge of Civil War-related sites in Kentucky, appointed by the Governor.
- II. The initial term for members appointed under paragraphs (d), (e), and (n) of section one (1) shall be two (2) years. Subsequent terms and terms for all other members shall be for four (4) years or until expiration of the Commission under subsection (7) of this section, whichever is less. All members may be reappointed.



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- III. The Chair of the Commission shall be elected from among the membership by the Commission members. Appointments to the Commission shall be made no later than November 1, 2009, and the first meeting of the Commission shall occur no later than December 31, 2009. The Commission shall meet at least biannually thereafter.
- IV. The Commonwealth of Kentucky Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission shall:
- Study and recommend activities that may be carried out by the Commonwealth of Kentucky to commemorate important events that occurred during the Civil War in Kentucky;
 - Inform Kentucky residents and the nation about the important role of Kentucky in the Civil War and the effects of the war on the citizens and landscapes of Kentucky;
 - Encourage civic, historical, educational, economic, and other entities throughout Kentucky to organize and participate in activities to expand the understanding of the significance of the Civil War;
 - Coordinate federal, state, and local sesquicentennial activities occurring in Kentucky;
 - Seek federal grants and philanthropic support for sesquicentennial activities; and
 - Perform other duties as necessary to highlight Kentucky's role in the Civil War.
- V. The Commission may create an advisory board of persons with a demonstrated interest in various aspects of the Civil War.
- VI. Members of the Commission shall serve without compensation, except that they may be reimbursed reasonable and necessary travel expenses incurred in the discharge of their duties, subject to administrative regulations promulgated by the Finance and Administration Cabinet.
- VII. The Commonwealth of Kentucky Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission shall expire on December 31, 2015.



TREY GRAYSON
Secretary of State



STEVEN L. BESHEAR, GOVERNOR
Commonwealth of Kentucky