

House Resolution No. 395

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE RUTH.

1831H.011

WHEREAS, steamboats are deeply entwined in Missouri's history and culture; and

2

WHEREAS, the Delta Queen steamboat operated for many years and in many areas
4 across the country as top-of-the-line luxury travel and was previously allowed to provide
5 overnight cruises; and

6

WHEREAS, the Delta Queen steamboat has carried three different United States
8 presidents and transported delegates of fifty-one other nations during the founding conference
9 of the United Nations; and

10

WHEREAS, the Delta Queen is widely considered the last steamboat of its kind with
12 overnight guest rooms; and

13

WHEREAS, the Delta Queen was once home to Mary Greene, who was one of the first
15 women to become a licensed river pilot; and

16

WHEREAS, the Delta Queen is expected to visit over eighty different ports in the United
18 States when it resumes operation; and

19

WHEREAS, the Delta Queen has established a home port, restaurant, and headquarters
21 in Kimmswick, Missouri; and

22

23 **WHEREAS**, the Delta Queen Steamboat Co. has created over one hundred seventy local
24 jobs and is expected to bring in more than thirty-six million four hundred thousand dollars to the
25 region annually; and

26

27 **WHEREAS**, resuming overnight cruises would bring even more economic benefits to
28 the region and create further economic growth and opportunity; and

29

30 **WHEREAS**, the Delta Queen has been designated as a "National Treasure" by the
31 National Trust for Historic Preservation, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and
32 declared a National Historic Landmark; and

33

34 **WHEREAS**, the Delta Queen was named to the National Trust for Historic
35 Preservation's "America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places" in 2016; and

36

37 **WHEREAS**, United States Senate Bill S. 89 exempts old vessels that only operate within
38 the inland waterways from federal fire-retardant materials requirements if the owners of the
39 vessel make annual structural alterations to at least ten percent of the areas of the vessel that are
40 not constructed of fire-retardant materials:

41

42 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that we, the members of the Missouri House
43 of Representatives, Ninety-ninth General Assembly, hereby urge the United States Congress to
44 enact United States Senate Bill S. 89; and

45

46 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
47 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for each
48 member of Missouri's congressional delegation.

✓