**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE BERNICE ELIZABETH NEWMAN BLACKWELL, UPON THE OCCASION OF HER ONE HUNDREDTH BIRTHDAY, AND TO WISH HER A JOYOUS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AND MANY YEARS OF CONTINUED HEALTH AND HAPPINESS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are delighted to learn that Bernice Blackwell will celebrate her centennial birthday surrounded by family and friends on June 2, 2013; and

Whereas, born on June 1, 1913, in the early part of the twentieth century, she has witnessed many remarkable social changes, technological advancements, and international developments that have spanned the globe from that time into the second decade of the twenty‑first century; and

Whereas, the daughter of Nettie and Boyd Newman, Bernice Newman was born in McBee and graduated from McBee High School in 1930; and

Whereas, on February 8, 1933, she married her beloved husband, Henry Herbert Blackwell in Bishopville, and together they reared two fine children, Molly B. Williams and Jimmy Blackwell, who have blessed her with five delightful grandchildren and nine great‑grandchildren; and

Whereas, she was a faithful member of McBee United Methodist Church and Union United Methodist Church, and she was a charter member of St. Luke United Methodist Church, where she served as a Sunday school teacher for eight years and as president of United Methodist Women for two years; and

Whereas, Bernice Blackwell served for two years as a houseparent for Epworth Children’s Home in Columbia, and she devoted herself to her community as a crafts instructor at Morrell Nursing Center and as a volunteer member of Carolina Pines Regional Medical Center in Hartsville, where she was honored as the 2006 Carolina Pines Auxiliary Auxilian of the Year; and

Whereas, although she loves to knit, paint, travel, and perform water aerobics, Mrs. Blackwell has found time to participate in Meals on Wheels, Extra Years of Zest (XYZ) at St. Luke United Methodist Church, and Red Hat Ladies, and she took part in Senior Olympics; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to honor this daughter of South Carolina at the celebration of her one hundredth birthday and to join with her family and friends in congratulating her on reaching this extraordinary milestone. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate Bernice Elizabeth Newman Blackwell, upon the occasion of her one hundredth birthday, and wish her a joyous birthday celebration and many years of continued health and happiness.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Bernice Elizabeth Newman Blackwell.

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