**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE PINKEY MARION SMITH BETHEL OF RIDGEWOOD ON THE OCCASION OF HER NINETY‑SEVENTH BIRTHDAY AND TO WISH HER A JOYOUS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AND MUCH HAPPINESS IN THE DAYS AHEAD.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are delighted to learn that Pinkey Marion Smith Bethel of the Ridgewood community in Richland County celebrated her ninety‑seventh birthday on June 15, 2013; and

Whereas, born on June 15, 1916, to Charlotte and French Smith of Hopkins and raised after their passing by her aunt, Mrs. Gertrude Edmonds. Pinkey Marion Smith Bethel came into this world when the twentieth century was still in its youth, and she has been witness to nearly all the incredible changes and developments that have come to this nation from that time into the second decade of the twenty‑first century; and

Whereas, this beloved matriarch and her husband, the late John Wesley Bethel, raised a fine family of five children, David Bethel, Bessie B. Harris, Peggy Bethel, and the late John Edward Bethel and Catherine B. Irving, who have given their parents the joy of eleven grandchildren, sixteen great‑grandchildren, and great‑great‑grandchildren; and

Whereas, this woman of faith is a member of Ridgewood Missionary Baptist Church and has lived all her adult life in the Ridgewood community; and

Whereas, the House of Representatives is proud to honor this truly lovely lady at the celebration of her ninety‑seventh birthday, and the members 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 Pinkey Marion Smith Bethel of Ridgewood on the occasion of her ninety‑seventh birthday and wish her a joyous birthday celebration and much happiness in the days ahead.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Pinkey Marion Smith Bethel.

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