**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE MRS. INEZ MELVINA MCKENZIE DRAYTON OF JASPER COUNTY ON THE OCCASION OF HER ONE HUNDREDTH BIRTHDAY, AND TO WISH HER A JOYOUS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AND CONTINUED HEALTH AND HAPPINESS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are delighted to learn that Mrs. Inez Melvina McKenzie Drayton will celebrate her one hundredth birthday on June 8, 2010; and

Whereas, Mrs. Drayton, the daughter of Laura Simmons and Jimmy McKenzie, was born on June 8, 1910, when the twentieth century was still in its youth, and she has been witness to many of the incredible changes and developments that have come to this nation from that time into the twenty‑first century; and

Whereas, a native of Tillman (Arm Oak), young Inez attended the public schools of Hampton County until Jasper County was founded in 1919. She finished her education in the newly formed county; and

Whereas, at the age of twelve, she was baptized and joined the Arm Oak Baptist Church, where she was a very active member; and

Whereas, in August 1932, she married her beloved husband, Proctor W. Drayton, Sr., the Lord blessing their union with three children, Everette, Theodus, and Edith, who have given their parents the joy of five grandchildren and seven great‑grandchildren; and

Whereas, in November 1946, Mrs. Drayton joined her husband at Lovely Hill Baptist Church in Ridgeland, where she has worshipped for the past sixty‑four years. She serves as a member of the charity board and is the second‑oldest member in the church, as well as one of two Church Mothers; and

Whereas, she is the only surviving charter member of the St. Mary’s Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, which she served as worthy matron for four years; and

Whereas, after the death of her husband in 1959, Mrs. Drayton devoted herself to raising her children, serving God, and assisting others. A shopkeeper and seamstress by profession, she made clothing for many Jasper County residents over the years; and

Whereas, the Senate is proud to honor this truly lovely lady at the celebration of her one hundredth birthday and joins with her legion of friends and well‑wishers to congratulate her on reaching this extraordinary milestone. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, congratulate Mrs. Inez Melvina McKenzie Drayton of Jasper County on the occasion of her one hundredth birthday, and wish her a joyous birthday celebration and continued health and happiness.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Mrs. Inez Melvina McKenzie Drayton.

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