**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE M. BEATRICE GRANT, OF CHARLESTON COUNTY, ON THE OCCASION OF HER ONE HUNDREDTH BIRTHDAY, AND TO WISH HER A JOYOUS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AND MANY MORE YEARS OF HEALTH AND HAPPINESS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are delighted to learn that M. Beatrice Grant will celebrate her one hundredth birthday on March 3, 2009; and

Whereas, M. Beatrice Grant was born on March 3, 1909, just after the dawn of the twentieth century, and as that century and the beginnings of the twenty‑first century have brought incredible changes and developments to this nation, Ms. Grant has been there to witness nearly all of them; and

Whereas, the daughter of Beatrice Helena Walker and Christopher Ernest Grant, she spent the first three or four years of her childhood in Barbados. After her move to the United States with her mother, she began school in New York and became an avid reader, even then showing herself precocious; and

Whereas, in time, young Beatrice graduated from Washington Irving High School and found employment in the garment industry for a number of years, all the while honing her skills as a gourmet cook and master gardener; and

Whereas, in the late 1950s, she attended night school at Hunter College, following which she worked for the Internal Revenue Service for more than twenty‑five years as an office auditor; and

Whereas, upon her retirement in 1974, she relocated to Charleston, purchased a home, and began working to help less fortunate children achieve their dreams. While she had no children of her own, she claims as hers Pennie George, Jan Izzard, Ruthie Mitchelle, Lorraine and Joan Nichols, Cecile and Michael Gumbs, Leslie Mardenborough, and Anita and Bernard Beaty; and

Whereas, for the past thirty‑two years, she has been a faithful member of Wallingford Presbyterian Church in Charleston, making significant contributions and sacrifices to benefit the mission and ministries of the church. She has a passion for the excellence, enrichment, growth, and nurture of children, for the elderly, and for building the community; and

Whereas, in recognition of her one hundredth birthday, the church will host a celebratory gathering on Sunday, March 8, 2009, an occasion that will also mark the one hundred forty‑second anniversary of the church’s founding; and

Whereas, in addition, Wallingford Presbyterian Church, where Ms. Grant serves as an elder, will also establish the M. Beatrice Grant Scholarship Fund to honor her many years of labor on behalf of the congregation; and

Whereas, the House of Representatives is proud to honor this truly lovely lady at the celebration of her centennial birthday and joins 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 M. Beatrice Grant, of CharlestonCounty, on the occasion of her one hundredth birthday, and wish her a joyous birthday celebration and many more years of health and happiness.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to M. Beatrice Grant.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑