**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE MARTHA HELEN KENNEDY, OF LEXINGTON 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 General Assembly are delighted to learn that Martha Helen Kennedy, of Lexington County, will celebrate her one hundredth birthday on April 14, 2009; and

Whereas, Martha Helen Kennedy was born on April 14, 1909, in Sharon, 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 twenty‑first century; and

Whereas, the daughter of Porter Blair Kennedy and Rachel Bessie McGill Kennedy, she grew up in Sharon and graduated from Sharon High School. After earning her bachelor’s degree at Winthrop College, she secured a teaching position in Ruby that paid seventy‑five dollars a month. Having taught at Ruby for fifteen years, she returned to Sharon to teach social studies and Latin at Sharon High School while continuing to live in her family’s home place; and

Whereas, in 1949, she completed her master’s degree at Winthrop College. When Sharon High School closed, she transferred to York, where she continued teaching social studies and Latin, adding to her list of duties the position of middle‑school librarian until she retired in 1974; and

Whereas, as part of her committed involvement with the community, she served as president of the Sharon Women’s Club seven times. She and Mrs. Doris M. Thomas compiled the book *Remembering Sharon 1889‑1989, Fact and Fiction*, and with the help of a committee she also prepared *Sketch of Sharon A.R.P. Church, Catawba Presbytery, 1796‑1980*. She was a member of the church choir, taught Sunday School for fifty years until 1996, and served as president of the Women of the Church and secretary‑treasurer of World Missions; and

Whereas, a descendant of William McGill, Sr., South Carolina House member from York for many years in the early 1800s, Ms. Kennedy served for a time as her family’s historian. Presently, she is a resident of Morningside Assisted Living in Lexington; and

Whereas, the General Assembly 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 Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, congratulate Martha Helen Kennedy, of LexingtonCounty, 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 presented to Martha Helen Kennedy.

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