**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE VIRGINIA WARD EDWARDS OF FOUNTAIN INN 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 House of Representatives are delighted to learn that Virginia Ward Edwards will celebrate her centennial birthday on June 28, 2011; and

Whereas, “Miss Virginia,” as she is fondly called, was born in Greenville to Rufus Nathan Ward and Bessie Montgomery Ward on June 28, 1911, when the twentieth century was still in its youth, and she has witnessed incredible changes and developments that have come to this nation from that time into the twenty‑first century; and

Whereas, the second of six children, she graduated from Greenville High School and earned a bachelor’s degree in commercial science from Winthrop College in 1932; and

Whereas, after college, she taught in the Greenville County School District for a year; the following year she moved to Fountain Inn to teach, and it was there that met her future husband, George Edwards; and

Whereas, they married in 1940, and together they reared three fine children: Bennett, Ginger, and Ward, who blessed them with three grandchildren and three great‑grandchildren with a fourth on the way; and

Whereas, when her husband answered his country’s call to serve in 1944 at the end of World War II, Virginia Edwards was left to run her husband’s insurance business, the George B. Edwards Agency, by herself while taking care of their small child. Virginia ran the business, and upon his return she maintained her integral role there for many years; and

Whereas, George died in 1966, and she continued to work for another twenty years in the business, garnering numerous awards for both the quantity and quality of business production during her forty‑five years of service; and

Whereas, she served a total of thirty‑three years on boards or advisory boards of local financial institutions, starting in 1966 when she began serving on the board of directors of Fountain Inn Federal Savings & Loan; and

Whereas, this former member of the American Legion Auxiliary, Greenville County Retired Educator’s Association, Greenville Christian Women’s Club, and The Poinsett Club credits her longevity to God, who has given her good health and a good sense of humor; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is proud to honor this wonderful 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 House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate Virginia Ward Edwards of Fountain Inn 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 presented to Virginia Ward Edwards.

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