**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UPON THE PASSING OF FLORIE MAE MCKNIGHT OF WILLIAMSBURG COUNTY, AND TO EXTEND THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HER FAMILY AND MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives were deeply saddened to learn of the death of Florie Mae McKnight of Williamsburg County on May 12, 2011, at the venerable age of one hundred nine; and

Whereas, born May 3, 1902, in Jacksonville, Florida, Florie Mae McKnight was a daughter of Taylor and Dida Milford. When Florie Mae was very young, her parents uprooted and moved to Lane in the Palmetto State. She attended school in a one‑room schoolhouse for a few years and then worked with her parents on a farm. The family always took time for church, where she received Christ as her Savior at a very early age; and

Whereas, married to Frank McKnight, Florie Mae McKnight and her husband had two fine daughters, Edith and Sennie Mae, who gave their parents the joy of twelve grandchildren; and

Whereas, Mrs. McKnight always lived in the household with eight of her grandchildren. Locally renowned for her from‑scratch biscuits and sweet‑potato pies, she could have won the title for whipping up the best ones in South Carolina, as attested by those who knew and loved her. She cooked meals in the house until her early 90s and was passionate about creating her handsewn quilts, planting in the garden, and raising her chickens; and

Whereas, she was nominated as “honorary mother” of the community, was a member of the South Carolina Farmer’s Lodge, and served as her church’s missionary and stewardess. A member of the choir at Greater Jerusalem A.M.E. Church, Florie Mae McKnight was known for saying, “Always put God first,” a creed she adhered to in her own life; and

Whereas, she leaves to cherish her memory her surviving daughter, Edith Wilson of Chicago, Illinois; twelve grandchildren, eight of whom she helped rear; twenty‑six great‑grandchildren; twenty‑eight great‑great‑grandchildren; one great‑great‑great‑grandchild; and a host of other relatives and friends. She will be greatly missed. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, express their profound sorrow upon the passing of Florie Mae McKnight of Williamsburg County, and extend the deepest sympathy to her family and many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Edith Wilson for the family.

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