**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE SINCERE SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA SENATE UPON THE PASSING OF JUNE WELSH GILL OF JASPER COUNTY, AND TO EXTEND THEIR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HER LOVING FAMILY AND TO HER MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate were saddened to learn of the death of World War II Air Force veteran flight nurse June Welsh Gill at the age of ninety‑two on April 8, 2011; and

Whereas, born in Eccles, West Virginia, on June 18, 1918, she was the daughter of the late Thomas Welsh and Catherine Muir Welsh; and

Whereas, this coal miner’s daughter wanted to travel and be a nurse, so she joined the United States Air Force and became a first lieutenant, serving in Europe during World War II and as part of the occupation force in Germany; and

Whereas, she met her beloved husband, Lieutenant Colonel Paul D. “P. D.” Gill, Jr., at Robins Air Force Base in Georgia. They were married on Thanksgiving Day in 1949 and enjoyed sixty years of marriage until his death two years ago; and

Whereas, rarely talking about her own service during World War II, she was always proud of her husband’s military service and his combat missions in Japan; and

Whereas, together they reared a fine son, Paul D. Gill III of Columbia, who blessed them with an adoring granddaughter, Meredith E. J. Gill of Clemson; and

Whereas, in 1973, June Gill joined the Jasper County Health Department where she served as a nurse for eighteen years, and she spent a great deal of time caring for the impoverished at Daufuskie Island; and

Whereas, an avid bridge player, she was a member of Ridgeland Baptist Church where she sang in the choir; and

Whereas, the last of eight brothers and sisters in her family, she was believed to be the last surviving woman veteran of World War II in Jasper County; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are grateful for the dedicated service that June Welsh Gill gave to her nation in one of the country’s darkest hours and for the legacy of devotion that this remarkable lady has left for her community. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, express their sincere sorrow upon the passing of June Welsh Gill of Jasper County, and extend their deepest sympathy to her loving family and many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Paul D. Gill III.

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