**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE JESSIE MAE WATTS BRACY OF RICHLAND COUNTY ON THE OCCASION OF HER NINETY‑EIGHTH BIRTHDAY AND TO WISH HER MUCH HAPPINESS IN THE DAYS AHEAD.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are delighted to learn that Jessie Mae Watts Bracy of Richland County celebrated her ninety‑eighth birthday on January 1, 2014; and

Whereas, born on January 1, 1916, to Walter and Parrie Lee Watts, the Columbia native came into this world 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, having graduated from Booker T. Washington High School in 1935, the young Jessie Mae continued her education at Columbia Hospital School of Nursing, graduating in 1939 as a registered nurse; and

Whereas, for her excellence in her profession, she received many honors, such as the Trailblazer Award in nursing, and served as head nurse (supervisor) of the emergency room at the old Columbia Hospital. Now retired, Mrs. Bracy is a charter member of the Columbia Hospital Alumni Association; and

Whereas, because she believes strongly in community participation, she has been associated with several local groups, such as the Lyon Street Community Club and City of Columbia Parks and Recreation (block captain); and

Whereas, in addition, this woman of faith is a lifelong member of Zion Baptist Church, where she sang in the musical choir and was a member of the Missionary Society and Nurses Aid Society; and

Whereas, in the fall of 1940, Jessie Mae was married to Leon Bracy (now deceased), God blessing the couple with a daughter, Leona Bracy English, also a retired nurse. Mrs. Bracy enjoys three grandsons, four great‑grandchildren, and one great‑great‑granddaughter; and

Whereas, those who are privileged to know Mrs. Bracy find her an inspiration and treasure her guidance and gift of leading by example; and

Whereas, the Senate is pleased to honor this daughter of South Carolina at the celebration of her ninety‑eighth birthday, and the members join with her family and friends in congratulating her on reaching this extraordinary milestone. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, congratulate Jessie Mae Watts Bracy of Richland County on the occasion of her ninety‑eighth birthday and wish her much happiness in the days ahead.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Jessie Mae Watts Bracy.

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