**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE LILLIAN JONES DENNIS OF RICHLAND COUNTY, UPON THE OCCASION OF HER ONE HUNDREDTH BIRTHDAY, AND TO WISH HER A JOYOUS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AND MANY YEARS OF CONTINUED HEALTH AND HAPPINESS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly are delighted to learn that Lillian Jones Dennis will celebrate her centennial birthday on February 2, 2013; and

Whereas, the second of John and Mary Bryant Jones’ seven children, Lillian Dennis was born in Fort Motte on Bellville Plantation, into a rich family history deeply rooted in the Palmetto State; and

Whereas, for generations her family lived at the noted Lang Syne Plantation in Fort Motte. Mrs. Dennis’ great‑great‑grandparents include former slave John Spann, the plantation carpenter and builder who helped build and organize Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, the first church and school for former slaves in the community; his wife, Rachel Turquand Spann, the plantation nurse; and Pompeii Bryant, a Maroon from Beaufort. She is a great‑granddaughter of Anniker Spann Bryant and Frank Bryant, a Maroon from Beaufort, and of William and Mary Parker Green of Lang Syne; and

Whereas, her grandparents were A.M.E minister Reverend Drayton Jones and Henrietta Halls Jones of Newberry and Syke and Leah Green Bryant of Lang Syne, the latter of whom were former slaves; and

Whereas, born on February 2, 1913, in the early part of the twentieth century, she has witnessed many remarkable social changes, technological advancements, and international developments that have transformed the world from that time into the second decade of the twenty‑first century; and

Whereas, her family moved to lower Richland County, where she attended Stoney Hill School and where she became a member of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church near Gadsden. She later joined Greater St. Luke Baptist Church where she has been a member for nearly fifty years and where she served in the seniors’ ministry and the missionary society; and

Whereas, she and her beloved husband, Zack Dennis, became prominent business people in Columbia as the owners and operators of Zack’s Playhouse, which employed many people throughout the capital city; and

Whereas, she reared one fine son, Tommy Jones, and he and his wife, Elnora, blessed her with six grandchildren, ten great‑grandchildren, five great‑great‑grandchildren, and three great‑great‑great‑grandchildren; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly are pleased to honor this daughter of South Carolina at the celebration of her one hundredth birthday, and they join 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 Lillian Jones Dennis of Richland County, upon the occasion of her one hundredth birthday, and wish her a joyous birthday celebration and many years of continued health and happiness.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Lillian Jones Dennis.

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