**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO COMMEND MARGARET EDENS OF SUMTER COUNTY FOR HER MANY YEARS OF SELFLESS SERVICE TO HER FAMILY, HER CHURCH, AND THE PEOPLE OF SUMTER COUNTY AND TO WISH HER A JOYOUS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AND MUCH HAPPINESS IN THE DAYS AHEAD.

Whereas, it is with great pleasure that the South Carolina House of Representatives honors individuals who freely give of their time and resources for the good of others; and

Whereas, Margaret Edens of Oswego has contributed valuable service to the citizens of Sumter County and is thereby worthy of praise; and

Whereas, born on November 8, 1931, Margaret graduated from Winthrop College and began teaching in 1953, retiring from her successful career in 1989 after thirty‑six years as an educator; and

Whereas, in 1955, she married John Edens, and that same year the couple began leading Methodist Youth Fellowship (MYF) at Bethel United Methodist Church, her spiritual home. South Carolina Representative Grady Brown, who considers Mrs. Edens a saint, was one of the young people privileged to experience the MYF leadership mantle of Mr. and Mrs. Edens; and

Whereas, in addition, Margaret Edens served her church as a Bible‑study and Sunday School teacher; and

Whereas, as a true Southern lady, mother, Sunday School teacher, Bible‑study teacher, and Christian, over her long lifetime Margaret Edens has had a positive impact on the lives of many; and

Whereas, she finds strength for all her endeavors in the strong support of her family. Margaret and her husband, John, who passed away not long ago, proudly raised two charming daughters and became the delighted grandparents of twin grandsons; and

Whereas, it has also come to the attention of the House that Mrs. Edens is celebrating her eighty‑third birthday on November 8, 2014, and the members wish to take this opportunity to congratulate her on this occasion and wish her many happy returns; and

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives recognize that the success of the State of South Carolina, the strength of its communities, and the vitality of American society as a whole depend, in great measure, upon the dedication of individuals like Margaret Edens who use their talents and resources to serve others. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, commend Margaret Edens of Sumter County for her many years of selfless service to her family, her church, and the people of Sumter County and wish her a joyous birthday celebration and much happiness in the days ahead.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Margaret Edens.

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