**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE LOUISE JOHNSON OF EFFINGHAM ON THE OCCASION OF HER ONE HUNDREDTH BIRTHDAY AND TO WISH HER A JOYOUS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AND MUCH HAPPINESS IN THE DAYS AHEAD.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are delighted to learn that Louise Johnson of Effingham will celebrate her one hundredth birthday on March 10, 2016; and

Whereas, born to Mr. and Mrs. Theoda Echols of Darlington County, Louise lost her parents at a young age and was raised by Ella Brown. The young Louise came into this world on March 10, 1916, 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 second decade of the twenty‑first century; and

Whereas, Louise began her education in a one‑room schoolhouse far enough from home to require a walk of some miles. Later, she attended Wilson High School; and

Whereas, on April 15, 1938, she wed her beloved Cleveland Johnson (now deceased), the Lord blessing their union with eight children, who have given their parents the joy of twenty‑two grandchildren, twenty‑nine great‑grandchildren, and twelve great‑great‑grandchildren; and

Whereas, possessing numerous talents and skills, Louise has used them all in her work through the years as a farmer, sharecropper, housekeeper, caregiver, foster parent to neighborhood children in need of nurture, babysitter, peddler for her home‑raised produce and eggs, and employee at Womack Gardens, Effingham Cannery, and the Convalescent Home; and

Whereas, Louise, who loved gardening and raising her chickens, didn’t sell all of her garden produce and eggs; rather, she gave some away to those who could use a portion of her bounty; and

Whereas, when those who know her think of Louise Johnson, they immediately call to mind the fragrance of the many delectable dishes that issued from her kitchen. A prize cook, Louise made her family and friends the lucky recipients of her culinary creativity. Her fruitcakes in particular are famous, and many have received them and other treasures from her hands, such as the delightful quilts she enjoyed fashioning; and

Whereas, this woman of faith finds her spiritual home at Savannah Grove Baptist Church in Effingham; and

Whereas, the House of Representatives is proud to honor this truly lovely lady at the celebration of her one hundredth 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 House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate Louise Johnson of Effingham on the occasion of her one hundredth birthday 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 Louise Johnson.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑