**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE MRS. MARY GARY ASHE OF CHARLESTON COUNTY ON THE OCCASION OF HER ONE HUNDREDTH BIRTHDAY AND TO WISH HER A JOYOUS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AND CONTINUED HEALTH AND HAPPINESS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are delighted to learn that Mary Gary Ashe will celebrate her centennial birthday surrounded by family and friends at her home on March 28, 2016; and

Whereas, born on Pawleys Island on March 28, 1916, in the early part of the twentieth century, she has witnessed many remarkable social changes, technological advancements, and international developments that have spanned the globe from that time into the second decade of the twenty‑first century; and

Whereas, the daughter of Ella and Richard Gary, young Mary Gary was one of ten children, and she began her early religious and educational training from the schools and churches on Pawleys Island and moved to Charleston when she was a teenager; and

Whereas, there in the “Holy City,” she met John Benjamin Ashe of Adams Run, and they were married in Charleston on September 11, 1936. Her beloved husband was a longshoreman for more than forty years at the International Longshoreman Associates Hall; and

Whereas, married for almost fifty years until God called her husband home at the age of seventy‑three, Mr. and Mrs. Ashe were blessed with seven children: Mary Ann Richardson, Johnnie Ashe Major, Jimmy Louis Ashe, Martha Ashe McQuiller, Joyce Ashe Reynolds, Gloria Ashe Barnett, and Teresa Ashe Winful; and

Whereas, their children have graced her life with the love and affection of a host of grandchildren, great‑grandchildren, and great‑great‑grandchildren, many of whom will join the family to celebrate her one hundredth birthday at her home; and

Whereas, Mrs. Ashe was a homemaker for over fifty years and until recently has cared for herself, done her own cooking, maintained her yard, and strolled through her neighborhood, and she remains very cognizant of so many pleasant memories, both past and present; and

Whereas, Mrs. Ashe also will be honored on Saturday, April 2, 2016, when friends and family plan to gather at the Charleston Miyabi Japanese Steak and Seafood House to celebrate her lifetime of service and devotion; and

Whereas, a faithful member of the People of Color Evangelistic Church, Mary Ashe attributes her longevity to God’s grace as she has lived her life eating healthy, gardening, and respecting others; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to honor this daughter of South Carolina at the celebration of her one hundredth birthday and join with her loving 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 Mrs. Mary Gary Ashe of Charleston County on the occasion of her one hundredth birthday and wish her a joyous birthday celebration and continued health and happiness.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Mrs. Mary Gary Ashe.

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