**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE JUDGE WILLIAM K. CHARLES, JR. UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS NINETIETH BIRTHDAY ON MARCH 15, 2015, AND TO WISH HIM A JOYOUS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AND MANY YEARS OF CONTINUED HAPPINESS.

Whereas, the members of the Senate are delighted to learn that Mr. William K. Charles, Jr. of Greenwood will celebrate his ninetieth birthday on March 15, 2015; and

Whereas, Judge Charles was born on March 15, 1925 in McCormick, South Carolina, to the late William Kimbrough and Carrie Lou A. Charles; and

Whereas, Judge Charles moved from McCormick to Greenwood at an early age and attended and graduated from the public schools there. He went on to attend the Citadel, where his pursuit of higher education was interrupted by his decision to join the United States Marine Corps; and

Whereas, Judge Charles served during World War II in the South Pacific and China. He was honorably discharged from the Marine Corps after a few years of service; and

Whereas, after his time in the Marine Corps, Judge Charles went on to earn an LL.B. and J.D. degree from the University of South Carolina School of Law; and

Whereas, he practiced law for many years at the law firm of Charles and Charles in Greenwood. His practice focused primarily on tort claims issues, civil, criminal, municipal, school and workers’ compensation matters; and

Whereas, Judge Charles served as City Attorney for the City of Greenwood for several years, as president of the South Carolina City Attorney’s Association, as president of the Greenwood County Bar Association, as a member of the Board of Commissioners on Grievances and Discipline, and as an attorney for the Greenwood County School District #50; and

Whereas, after his appointment by the Governor on August 25, 1983, Judge Charles became a family court judge for the Eighth Judicial Circuit, Seat #3 on September 1, 1983. He was subsequently elected by the General Assembly on February 1, 1984, and he served continuously until his retirement on February 14, 1997; and

Whereas, Judge Charles married Elisabeth Gray Scurry on January 25, 1947, and the couple was blessed with three children and four grandchildren; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are pleased to recognize this son of South Carolina in the celebration of his ninetieth birthday and join with his family and friends in congratulating him on reaching this extraordinary milestone. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the Senate, by this resolution, congratulate Judge William K. Charles, Jr. upon the occasion of his ninetieth birthday on March 15, 2015, and wish him many more years of continued happiness.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Judge William K. Charles, Jr.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑