**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE MARY MAGDLEN MCFARLAND STEPHENS 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 Senate are delighted to learn that Mary Stephens will celebrate her one hundredth birthday on May 23, 2017; and

Whereas, Mary was born on May 23, 1917 in Chesterfield County, South Carolina. She moved to the Greenhill Community in Darlington County, South Carolina and attended Greenhill Community School in Hartsville; and

Whereas, Mary has seven of her own children, Bonnie, John, Mary, Essie, Clarence, Harvey, and Janie. After the passing of her sister, she also raised her sister’s four children, Sara, James, Evelyn, and Verna Graham; and

Whereas, a mother to all, Mary, from 1966 to 2014, woke up every morning at around 6 a.m. to open her doors to the neighbor kids. She always made sure they had breakfast and stayed warm and safe; and

Whereas, Mary’s neighbors refer to her as the missionary of the community, a friend to anyone who is sick or in need. She has constantly proven herself in times of need to have a generous, kind spirit; and

Whereas, in her free time, Mary enjoys canning, especially vegetable soup, and quilting; and

Whereas, the Senate is proud to honor this daughter of South Carolina at the celebration of her one hundredth birthday, and the members joins with her family and friends in congratulating her on reaching this important life milestone. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, congratulate Mary Magdlen McFarland Stephens 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 presented to Mary Magdlen McFarland Stephens.

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