**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE INEZ HOLMES SMITH 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 Inez Smith will celebrate her one hundredth birthday on May 27, 2017 at a gathering with family and friends at Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Cayce, South Carolina; and

Whereas, Inez Holmes Smith was born on May 27, 1917 in Lexington County. She worked as a cook for many years in the Lexington County school system and also worked for Blue Cross & Blue Shield. Later, she started one of the first black day care centers in the Cayce area, Smith’s Day Care, where she cared for more than three hundred children over a thirty year span. She has always been fond of children and the elderly; and

Whereas, Inez Smith was married to Willie B. Smith for thirty years. He passed away in May, 1983; and

Whereas, Inez is the mother of five daughters, Helen, Elnora, Margaret, Margie, and Vanesa; and two sons, Willie, Jr. and Jerome. She has ten grandchildren, Bruce, Edward, Lisa, Yolanda, Tonja, Avery, Dexter, Brandan, Jamay, and Christopher; and

Whereas, Inez is a faithful member of Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church, where she has served for more than sixty years. She sang in the jubilee choir and was a member of the senior Sunday school class and the Cayce Community Club. Her motto is, “Help a friend if you can, and always give them a piece of your heart and not a piece of your mind”; and

Whereas, Inez attributes her health and longevity to nutrition, exercise, and a positive attitude. She always plans her meals to include fresh fruits and vegetables, along with a little dessert. In her spare time, she watches *Wheel of Fortune* and *Jeopardy* or works in her puzzle books while listening to gospel music. Inez enjoys canning, especially fig preserves, and she never lets out-of-town guests leave without a little of her preserves; and

Whereas, Inez is a kind and giving person. She always has a positive word of encouragement for everyone she meets. She enjoys love, laughter, and a special, spiritual relationship with God; and

Whereas, the Senate is proud to honor this daughter of South Carolina at the celebration of her one hundredth birthday, and the members join 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 Inez Holmes Smith 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 Inez Holmes Smith.

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