**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE MRS. DOROTHY ALBERTHA MAYHAMS SMALLS TAYLOR OF GEORGETOWN ON THE OCCASION OF HER ONE HUNDREDTH BIRTHDAY AND TO WISH HER A JOYOUS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AND MUCH HAPPINESS IN THE DAYS AHEAD.

Whereas, on January 2, 2019, Mrs. Dorothy Albertha Mayhams Smalls Taylor of Georgetown will awaken to the celebration of a milestone event: her one hundredth birthday. Born on January 2, 1919, to Norridge Cain Mayhams and Julia Lavinia Bryant Mayhams, the young Dorothy was reared on the family homestead at 409 Orange Street in Georgetown, the same property on which she currently resides; and

Whereas, Dorothy Taylor started first grade at the Howard School, housed in the Church of God located at 422 King Street. She remembers Arlene Alston, her first‑grade teacher, as the nicest teacher she ever had. She graduated from high school in 1936 as third honor student and attended South Carolina State College, where she earned a bachelor’s degree in English with a minor in social studies. Later, she received a master’s degree in elementary education from South Carolina State College and pursued further study at the University of Chicago; and

Whereas, she was a second‑grade teacher at Howard School and J.B. Beck Elementary. Mrs. Taylor was the first African American to teach an advanced English class at J.B. Beck Junior High School. She retired in 1979 after thirty‑five years of teaching; and

Whereas, she was involved in volunteer work at the community, state, and national level, serving as secretary of the Georgetown County Teachers Association, representative to the National Education Association, and volunteer tutor of children and adults at Bethesda Baptist Church and in her home. Dorothy also taught Head Start students how to read, write, and speak correctly. She was a docent at the Georgetown Rice Museum. In addition, Dorothy was featured as one of ten women taped for a documentary, *The Women of Georgetown County*, about their experiences growing up and living in Georgetown County; and

Whereas, her parents were lifelong members of the Church of God. She was brought up with three brothers (Norridge, Joseph, and John), two sisters (Sara and Miriam), and two cousins (James Arthur and Rosalee) in a Christian home with strict religious tenets. Her father sold books and newspapers, instilling a lifelong love for reading and learning. Her mother was a lover of music and sent her three daughters to study music. During high school, she took a more active role in the Church of God, teaching Sunday School. As an adult, she played the piano and organ for Sunday School and Sunday services and directed the Easter and Christmas programs. Dorothy continues to serve God and her church by teaching an adult Sunday School class and serving as pianist and organist for Sunday School and Sunday services at her beloved First Church of God in Georgetown; and

Whereas, Dorothy married Louis Bryan Smalls, now deceased, a childhood friend and fellow church member and father of her three daughters, Eleanor Julia Scavella (deceased), Carla Joyce Smalls, and Lois Dorothea Smalls‑Fletcher. Her five grandchildren are Kristen Marie Clark, Erica Scavella Hill, H. Kershaw George, Jr., Louis Lavelle Fletcher, Jr., Colin Mayhams Fletcher, and Joshua Bryan Fletcher. She also has two great‑grandsons, Darryl and Jordan. She later married Wilbur T. Taylor, also now deceased; and

Whereas, it is a great pleasure for the members of the House to join with Mrs. Taylor’s family and friends in congratulating her on reaching this important life 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. Dorothy Albertha Mayhams Smalls Taylor of Georgetown 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 Mrs. Dorothy Albertha Mayhams Smalls Taylor.

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