**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE CAROLINE “MATTIE LOU” 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 Caroline “Mattie Lou” Smith celebrated her one hundredth birthday on Tuesday, April 16, 2019; and

Whereas, a native of Orangeburg County, Caroline “Mattie Lou” Smith was born on April 16, 1919 to Eliza Murphy Green and Isaac Green, as the fifth of fourteen children. In 1928, the family relocated to Poor Farm, just outside of Walterboro. They continued to relocate multiple times over the next decade, moving to Green Pond, Campbell, and Walterboro; and

Whereas, an attentive student, Mattie Lou began her schooling in Eutawville, and she finished her education up to the ninth grade in night school at Colleton County High School in Walterboro; and

Whereas, in her youth, Mattie Lou helped to care for her many brothers and sisters, which instilled in her the desire to care for others. A spirited child, she was always ready to defend a family member or friend, no matter the odds. In following this desire to care for others, she ultimately became a nanny; and

Whereas, Mattie Lou was married to her husband, Samuel Elijah Smith, for fifty-two years until he passed away in 1992. Together, they had six children, five sons and one daughter; twenty-two grandchildren; twenty-nine great-grandchildren; and a number of great‑great grandchildren. They touched countless more children’s lives, and they always had a meal and a warm bed in their red brick house ready for anyone in need; and

Whereas, in recent years, Mattie Lou moved to her winter home in Bartow, Florida with her daughter, Anna Smith Jones, and her son‑in‑law, Conny L. Jones. To this day, she still comes back to visit what she considers her true home, South Carolina, as often as possible; and

Whereas, Mattie Lou now spends her days in good health and relaxation, watching three of her great-grandchildren grow up. Her legacy, borne in the hearts of all that know her, will live on for many more years to come, and her story spans a century of love and compassion; 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 Caroline “Mattie Lou” 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 Caroline “Mattie Lou” Smith.

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