**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE SARAH HEATON STAFFORD ON THE OCCASION OF HER EIGHTIETH 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 Sarah Heaton Stafford will celebrate her eightieth birthday on June 19, 2019; and

Whereas, Sarah Heaton Stafford was born on June 19, 1939, and she graduated from high school in the small town of Dana, North Carolina. She is an alumna of Spartanburg General Hospital School of Nursing and the University of South Carolina, where she earned a Bachelor of Nursing and a Master’s in Nursing; and

Whereas, Sarah began her career working as a staff nurse in several hospitals and ultimately at South Carolina Baptist Hospital. She also served as a teaching associate at the University of South Carolina’s College of Nursing and an instructor in nursing education at the Wm. Jennings Bryan Dorn Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Columbia; and

Whereas, a strong advocate for women veterans, Sarah found her true passion in efforts to remedy the lack of special care for these women and their health problems. In 1993, she established the Women Veterans Clinic at the Wm. Jennings Bryan Dorn Veterans Affairs Medical Center, and she worked as the Women’s Veterans Coordinator and Adult Nurse Practitioner for Women’s Health until she retired in 2001; and

Whereas, a devoted mother and wife, Sarah Stafford managed to raise her children while pursuing her education and serving the people of this State as a nurse and educator; and

Whereas, this “Year of the Veteran” marks an excellent chance to honor women veterans, and the members are pleased to do so in part by honoring this remarkable woman who fought for women veterans and who provided a resource for them that had never before existed; and

Whereas, the Senate is proud to honor this daughter of South Carolina at the celebration of her eightieth 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 Sarah Heaton Stafford on the occasion of her eightieth 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 Sarah Heaton Stafford.

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