**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE HUBERT “HUGH” KELLER OF BERKELEY COUNTY ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RECENT ONE HUNDREDTH BIRTHDAY AND TO WISH HIM MUCH HAPPINESS IN THE DAYS AHEAD.

Whereas, on December 25, 2020, Hubert “Hugh” Keller of Berkeley County awakened to the celebration of a milestone event: his one hundredth birthday; and

Whereas, born in Abbeville on December 25, 1920, the young Hugh moved with his family to a farm near Gluck Mill and started school. Another move followed, still during his early years, to Ft. Mill. The next move took the family to Rock Hill, where they lived on a farm near the Catawba Indian Reservation and Hugh worked in the fields with his parents and siblings. He earned his high school diploma in Rock Hill, and the Kellers then moved to Charleston, where Hugh graduated from Murray Vocational School and became employed at the Charleston Naval Base as a shipfitter; and

Whereas, having enlisted in the U.S. Navy for service in World War II, this patriotic American served his country from May 1944 to May 1946. During his war service, he was stationed in the Aleutian Islands, where he helped repair damaged ships so they could be put back into action. He later joined the Navy Reserves and served in the Korean War from 1950 to 1951 on the destroyer USS *Melvin* (DD680). He would go on to work at the Charleston Naval Base until his 1978 retirement as a planner/estimator of nuclear submarines; and

Whereas, after completing his war service in 1951, Hugh returned home to Charleston to his wife, Lucy Annette, and their two sons, Kenneth and Terry. Hugh and Annette later had two daughters, Susan and Karen, and their four children blessed them with nine grandchildren: Sean, Shannon, Heather, T.K., Bryan, Alan, Kristin, Chris, and Chad. Further blessings have followed in the form of six great‑grandchildren: Logan, Hutson, Hadley, Kinsley, Lucy Kaye, and Evan. Still residing in their home in Hanahan, Hugh and Annette joyfully celebrated their seventy‑fourth wedding anniversary on October 23, 2020; and

Whereas, in November 1947, Hugh and his brother, Bob, founded a small mission church located in North Charleston. After the mission closed, they began attending Ferndale Baptist Church in North Charleston, where Hugh served as a deacon for several years and was a Sunday School teacher and member of the church’s building committee. Ferndale Baptist Church has now moved to Hanahan under a new name, Foster Creek Baptist Church, where Hugh is still a member and attends when he is able; and

Whereas, Hugh Keller may be summed up in few words: He is a Christian man of strong faith; a loving husband, father, grandfather, and great‑grandfather; a proud man who unashamedly loves his God, family, and country. The 2020 election marked the first time he was not physically able to vote in person, but he did vote by absentee ballot; and

Whereas, due to the COVID‑19 pandemic, the family could not hold a big birthday celebration with friends and family to honor him at this very special time in his life. However, the immediate family privately celebrated his centennial birthday with him on Friday, December 25, 2020, at his home; and

Whereas, the House of Representatives takes much pleasure in honoring this son of South Carolina on the recent celebration of his one hundredth birthday and joins with his family and friends in congratulating him 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 Hubert “Hugh” Keller of Berkeley County on the occasion of his recent one hundredth birthday and wish him much happiness in the days ahead.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Hugh Keller.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑