**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE EUGENE H. LUNTEY ON THE GRAND OCCASION OF HIS ONE HUNDREDTH BIRTHDAY AND TO CELEBRATE THIS MOMENTOUS MILESTONE.

Whereas, born on May 29, 1921, Eugene H. Luntey was raised in the small town of Buhl, Idaho. Learning the value of hard work at an early age, he delivered newspapers and worked in the town’s only drug store while he attended high school. Upon his graduation, Eugene went on to the University of Idaho, where he earned his bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering in 1943. Receiving a scholarship, he continued his education at the Institute of Gas Technology at the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) in Chicago; and

Whereas, in response to World War II, Eugene joined the Navy where he could put his new knowledge and expertise into service. He worked for the Office of Scientific Research and Development, and as an airborne Electronics Officer for the Navy; and

Whereas, having completed his military service, Eugene returned to IIT in Chicago. In 1947, he married his first wife, Beverly, after which Gene accepted a position as a junior engineer at the Brooklyn Union Gas Company in New York City, where he spent thirty‑nine years; and

Whereas, uniquely qualified through his long years of service, Eugene eventually rose to command the company as president and chairman for eleven years before his mandatory retirement in 1986. During his time, he was able to use his expertise to work on major projects, such as planning, designing, and installing necessary facilities to bring natural gas to New York City in the 1950’s; and

Whereas, in 1956, Eugene and Beverly had a son, Kirk. Following his birth they chose to settle down in Sands Point in Nassau County. While there, Eugene became the deputy mayor and chief police commissioner of Sands Point for more than twenty‑five years. Multifaceted, he also served on the board of the Brooklyn Museum, the Brooklyn Academy of Music, the New York City Planning Commission, and the New York City Partnership; and

Whereas, over time, Eugene became a fixture in the natural gas industry, becoming a member of the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, and the International Gas Association; and chairman of the American Gas Association, the New York Gas Group, the Society of Gas Lighting, and the Gas Research Institute. He also joined the board of trustees of Long Island University in 1983, which at the time was the fifth largest private university in the country with more than thirty thousand students. Upon his retirement from Brooklyn Union Gas Company in 1986, his work with the university became a welcome responsibility that he continued until 1998; and

Whereas, in 2000, after over fifty years of marriage, Eugene’s wife Beverly passed away. A year later, he married Betty Brodie of Moss Creek Plantation in Hilton Head. The two had long been friends for more than forty‑five years and were married in 2001. Expanding his family to include four more children, ten grandchildren, and four great‑grandchildren, Gene has now been able to spend time as a loving grandfather and great‑grandfather; and

Whereas, birthdays provide a special time and opportunity to celebrate and honor those of great importance in our lives. It is a great pleasure for the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives to join with Eugene H. Luntey’s family and friends to recognize this momentous occasion and congratulate him on reaching this remarkable 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 Eugene H. Luntey on the grand occasion of his one hundredth birthday and to celebrate this momentous milestone.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Eugene H. Luntey.

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