**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE SOPHIE GREGORY OF AIKEN COUNTY ON THE OCCASION OF HER ONE HUNDREDTH BIRTHDAY AND TO WISH HER A JOYOUS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AND MUCH HAPPINESS IN THE DAYS AHEAD.

Whereas, Sophie C. Gregory will celebrate her one hundredth birthday on May 9, 2014; and

Whereas, she was born on May 9, 1914 to George and Despina Christopher who immigrated to this country from Greece. Sophie and her six siblings spent their formative years in Savannah, Georgia; and

Whereas, after her marriage to Euthymios Athan Gregory, she moved to Aiken, South Carolina where they raised a family; and

Whereas, Sophie’s parents instilled a strong work ethic in her at an early age that contributed greatly to her being a loyal and valued employee of J.B. White Department Store for twenty‑eight years; and

Whereas, Mrs. Gregory is proud of her Greek heritage and is devoted to her church, the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church; and

Whereas, Mrs. Gregory is the mother of four children, George Gregory, Arthur Gregory, Johnny Gregory, and Maria Taylor; the grandmother of nine grandchildren; and the great‑grandmother of six great‑grandchildren, and she is the matriarch of her family; and

Whereas, Mrs. Gregory stressed to her children and grandchildren the importance of education and takes great pride knowing that they at this time have earned a combined thirty‑six college degrees, including post‑graduate degrees in medicine, law, pharmacy, business and education; and

Whereas, Mrs. Gregory is known to embrace life and her family to the fullest, a wonderful example of which is when, at the age of ninety‑nine, at her grandson’s recent wedding, she joined the dance floor; and

Whereas, Mrs. Gregory is blessed with wit, wisdom, and insight, and there is never any confusion as to her position on matters of importance; and

Whereas, as a knowledgeable sports enthusiast, Mrs. Gregory enjoys cheering on the University of South Carolina Gamecocks and the Duke University Blue Devils. She is able to speak with great specificity and detail as to the performance of those teams; and

Whereas, she will celebrate her one hundredth birthday with family members at Rose Hill Estate on May 9, 2014; and

Whereas, the Senate is proud to honor Mrs. Gregory at the celebration of her one hundredth birthday, and the members join with her family and friends in congratulating her on reaching this exceptional milestone. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the Senate, by this resolution, congratulate Sophie Gregory of Aiken County 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 forwarded to Sophie Gregory.

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