**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE ONETHIA WASHINGTON ELLIOTT OF SANDY ISLAND ON THE OCCASION OF HER ONE HUNDREDTH BIRTHDAY AND TO WISH HER MUCH HAPPINESS AND JOY IN THE YEARS TO COME.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are delighted to learn that Onethia Washington Elliott of Sandy Island celebrated her one hundredth birthday on August 10, 2014; and

Whereas, born the daughter of Sarah Herriott Washington Nesbitt and Hammond Washington of Georgetown County’s Sandy Island, Onethia Washington Elliott came into this world on August 10, 1914, when the twentieth century was still in its youth, and has been witness to nearly all the incredible changes and developments that have come to this nation from that time into the second decade of the twenty‑first century; and

Whereas, “Onese,” as family and friends lovingly call her, was the fifth child and only daughter in her family, as well as granddaughter of Philip Washington, a freed slave who purchased a parcel of riverfront land after the Civil War and named it Sandy Island; and

Whereas, in 1933, the young Onese wed the late John Elliott, and to this union nine children were born: Edna, Frederick, Samuel, John, and Robert, all now deceased, and Sarah, Ralph, Herman, and Robert, the latter named for his older brother. The motherly nature Mrs. Elliott demonstrated in rearing her children long has spilled over into the community, for she presents kindness and motherly charm to anyone she encounters, especially members of the Sandy Island Community, where she has resided all her life; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman worked in the rice fields, labored on tobacco farms, and performed domestic duties with tenacity and grit, determined to ensure her family’s needs were met; and

Whereas, a faithful lifelong member of New Bethel Baptist Church, she actively served with the Senior Missionary Society and usher board. She is one of the oldest members of the church and continues to serve as a community role model, mentor, and productive citizen; and

Whereas, Mrs. Elliott, matriarch of her family, is blessed with a keen memory of days gone by, and her recollections of family history have been compiled to be passed on for generations to come. During leisure time, she loves attending to her flowers and other plants, which return much joy and relaxation to her. Her favorite book is the Bible, and she loves to talk about the goodness of the Lord. Her favorite Scripture is Psalm 23, and her favorite hymn, “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”; and

Whereas, known for her lovable and witty personality, generosity, hospitality, thoughtfulness, wisdom, and faith in the Lord, Onese Elliott is an inspiring presence to the community’s younger generation and is respected by all; and

Whereas, the House of Representatives is proud to honor this truly lovely lady at the celebration of her one hundredth birthday, and the members join with her family and friends in congratulating her on reaching this extraordinary 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 Onethia Washington Elliott of Sandy Island on the occasion of her one hundredth birthday and wish her much happiness and joy in the years to come.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Onethia Washington Elliott.

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