**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE GEORGE JONES OF WILLIAMSBURG COUNTY ON THE OCCASION OF HIS ONE HUNDRED SIXTH BIRTHDAY AND TO WISH HIM A JOYOUS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AND CONTINUED HEALTH AND HAPPINESS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are delighted to learn that George Jones of Williamsburg County celebrated his one hundred sixth birthday on May 13, 2011; and

Whereas, the son of Julia Simon Jones and the Reverend George Jones, Sr., George Jones was born in Salters on May 13, 1905, in the early part of the twentieth century, and he has been witness to nearly all the incredible changes and developments that have come to this nation from that time into the twenty‑first century; and

Whereas, George Jones never knew his mother and his father died at an early age, leaving Young George to depend on his sister and brother‑in‑law for his care. Spurred on by a determined mind and strong spirit, he has become a highly respected man in his community; and

Whereas, Mr. Jones’s education in life extended far beyond the third‑grade formal education he received, although he especially prized the math skills he learned in school as a valuable tool for managing his finances because he always appreciated the value of a dollar. The need to help his family required him to leave school and begin full‑time work farming tobacco and cotton; and

Whereas, as a young adult, Mr. Jones prudently began to acquire his own land. He married Marie Ned Jones, and they reared five children, Julia, Thadeus, George, Jonathan, and Mabel. The family farmed twenty‑five acres of land in cotton and tobacco over the years, and in 1950 bought their first home. As a loving family man, George Jones cared for his wife in her later years and served as a role model to young husbands like Representative Ronnie A. Sabb; and

Whereas, presently living in Greeleyville, this lifelong resident of South Carolina has been a positive force in electing qualified African-Americans to local political offices, and is a great admirer of President Obama, as well as former President Clinton and former President Roosevelt; and

Whereas, viewing church as a place he could go for love, Mr. Jones attended Pine Grove AME Church in Greeleyville in his early years and in 1932 joined Wilson United Methodist Church. A faithful church member, he has served as treasurer, trustee, and class leader. Mr. Jones has lived his life mindful of the Ten Commandments, which he instilled into his children; and

Whereas, the House of Representatives is pleased to honor this son of South Carolina at the celebration of his one hundred sixth birthday, and the members join with his family and friends in congratulating him 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 George Jones of Williamsburg County on the occasion of his one hundred sixth birthday and wish him a joyous birthday celebration and continued health and happiness.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to George Jones.

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