**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE RALPH S. HENDRICKS OF GREENVILLE COUNTY ON THE OCCASION OF HIS ONE HUNDREDTH BIRTHDAY, AND TO WISH HIM A JOYOUS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AND MANY YEARS OF CONTINUED HEALTH AND HAPPINESS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are delighted to learn that Ralph Hendricks of Greenville County will celebrate his one hundredth birthday on April 27, 2017; and

Whereas, Ralph was born on April 27, 1917, in Bowman, Georgia to Martin Spurgeon Hendricks and Clara Elizabeth Seymour Hendricks. He grew up in Grey Court in Laurens County and later moved to southern Greenville County; and

Whereas, after serving in the United States Army Air Corps during World War II, he worked as a long haul driver with a trucking company in Greenville and subsequently worked in the lumber and supply business for his father‑in‑law. Ralph eventually purchased the business and developed it into one of the largest independent building materials suppliers in the southeast, before selling Hendricks Builders Center in 1995; and

Whereas, as a builder and developer in the Golden Strip area of Greenville, he developed numerous subdivisions, including Poinsettia, Wagon Creek, Westwood, and Hunters Wood, among others; and

Whereas, a life director of the National Association of Home Builders, he has served as president of the Independent Home Builders Association, the Greenville Home Builders Association, Carolina Lumber Dealers Association, the Simpsonville Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Simpsonville Rotary Club, of which he is a charter member; and

Whereas, Ralph also served as a member of the Simpsonville City Council from 1968 through 1971, as well as Mayor of Simpsonville from 1976 to 1988. He is a member of the Simpsonville 2020 Committee, dedicated to the future development of the city of Simpsonville. As a community leader, Ralph has been involved in numerous civic improvements, including the landmark Clock Tower for which he donated the funds necessary for construction. In 1995, he donated the land and other funds to help construct the Hendricks Branch Library, a division of the Greenville County Library System; and

Whereas, additionally, he has served on the Board of Directors of the Palmetto Bank and the Greenville Tech Foundation, and as a member of the Board of Trustees for Furman University and North Greenville University. He has further served as a Commissioner of the Renewable Water Resources Commission; and

Whereas, having received numerous awards in recognition of his professional success, as well as his civic and community involvement, Ralph has led an impactful life. Some of his many awards include Home Builder of the Year for Greenville County, Citizen of the Year by the Simpsonville Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Order of the Silver Crescent; and

Whereas, in 1986, Ralph created the Ralph and Virginia Hendricks Foundation, which provides scholarships for students at Hillcrest High School and Woodmont High School who attend select schools of higher learning in the area. Furthermore, the foundation makes contributions to area charities such as Marietta Baptist Camp, Meals on Wheels, and the Greenville Rescue Mission, along with many other local causes; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to honor this son of South Carolina at the celebration of his one hundredth birthday and 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 Ralph S. Hendricks of Greenville County on the occasion of his one hundredth birthday, and wish him a joyous birthday celebration and many years of continued health and happiness.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Ralph S. Hendricks.

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