**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE DOROTHY MCCANTS OF WINNSBORO ON THE OCCASION OF HER EIGHTIETH BIRTHDAY AND TO WISH HER A JOYOUS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AND MUCH HAPPINESS IN THE DAYS AHEAD.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are delighted to learn that Dorothy McCants of Winnsboro will celebrate her eightieth birthday on February 28, 2022; and

Whereas, born in Winnsboro on February 28, 1942, Dorothy McCants came into this world the daughter of Estea and Dollie Padgett and the oldest of four children. She grew up in Greenbriar, where sound values and a strong work ethic were instilled at an early age. She, along with her siblings, spent weeks working in the fields planting and harvesting cotton, corn, watermelon, and other crops. She attended Kelly Miller Elementary and McCrorey‑Liston High School; and

Whereas, in 1959, Dorothy wed her high school sweetheart, the late Freeman McCants. The two were blessed with three children, Rodney, Vincent, and Malissa, who gave their parents the joy of seven grandchildren and many great‑grandchildren. Dorothy was a devoted wife and remains a loving mother and grandmother; and

Whereas, shortly after Freeman and Dorothy were married, Freeman was drafted into the United States Army and assigned to Fort Hood, Texas. Upon completion of his tour of duty, the couple returned to Winnsboro, where they went to work building a home and raising a family. Her focus was raising her children and instilling in them love, good morals, values, and discipline and assisting her husband in providing for the family. To this day, the McCants family is very close‑knit and filled with love, compassion, and laughter; and

Whereas, in April 1995, Freeman passed away. Though this was a difficult time, Dorothy remained strong and determined to build on the legacy she and Freeman had begun. She cultivated a genuine love for, and trust in, the Lord, and this love permeates and drives who she is today. It is the fabric that knits the family together; and

Whereas, throughout her life, Dorothy held many different jobs outside the home. She worked as a skilled seamstress at Charm Apparel and Manhattan Manufacturing for many years. However, the highlight of her career (and one of her passions) seems to be the times she spent countless hours assisting with voting and getting folks to the polls. During the final years of her career, Dorothy worked as a nurse’s aide, her most satisfying job. She connected with people in a way that enabled her to meet the need at hand. Many of the families she helped are still in contact with her today; and

Whereas, as a woman of faith, Dorothy is a devoted member of Saint Luke Baptist Church, where she has served since childhood. She is also a member of the Jubilee Choir and Christian Ladies Association Together in Christ. She resides near her church, and on any warm day she can be found sitting on her front porch or working in her yard, smiling and waving to the cars as they go by. They all know her and reciprocate. Occasionally, some who live on the same road will even stop by to give her some fish they have caught or game they have hunted. She calls them all her friends. Easter is particularly special for Dorothy, who spends the weekend dying eggs and filling Easter baskets with candy for all. Even adults look forward to getting a basket; and

Whereas, the House is proud to honor this truly lovely lady at the celebration of her eightieth birthday, and the members join with her many well‑wishers 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 Dorothy McCants of Winnsboro on the occasion of her eightieth 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 presented to Dorothy McCants.

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