

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 346

By Ramsey

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Mary Graham Cook on the celebration of her 100th birthday.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pay tribute to those citizens who are celebrating special occasions in their estimable lives; and

WHEREAS, Mary Graham Cook is celebrating her 100th birthday on September 10, 2011, a milestone that is being commemorated as yet another precious souvenir of life's rich pageant; and

WHEREAS, Mary Cook was born on September 10, 1911, and she has spent the majority of her life in Tennessee, primarily in Tellico Plains and Chattanooga; and

WHEREAS, despite a serious automobile injury she suffered decades ago and the chronic pain which resulted from it, Mrs. Cook maintains a zest for life; and

WHEREAS, a woman of devout faith, she often reflects fondly on the revival meeting at Mt. Harmony Baptist Church in the fall of 1919, at which she and her sister-in-law, Johnsie Graham, went forward and were saved; and

WHEREAS, a few years later, Mrs. Cook participated in a revival at Ebenezer Methodist Church, at which time she and her future husband, Sherman Cook, were baptized in the creek near the church; and

WHEREAS, Mary Cook is deeply devoted to her family and she always endeavors to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, she was happily joined in marriage with Sherman Cook until his passing, and the couple's blessed union produced seven children: Lucille Reed, Ledford Cook, Erskine Larry Cook, Austin Cook, Vincent Cook, Katherine Kesley, and the late Erma Lou Hooper; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Cook is also the proud matriarch of fifteen grandchildren, twenty-nine great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild; and

WHEREAS, as she sails gracefully into her second century, Mary Cook is still an active and productive member of society, and we wish to grasp this golden opportunity to specially recognize one of Tennessee's most outstanding citizens on this very special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby join with the family and friends of Mary Graham Cook in celebrating this special lady's 100th birthday and extend to Mrs. Cook our best wishes for many happy returns.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.