

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Irene Wright upon the occasion of celebrating her 104th Birthday

WHEREAS, Senior citizens bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to the increasingly active roles they play in today's society; their past contributions and future participation are a vital part of, and valuable asset to, the fabric of community life and activity; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Irene Wright upon the occasion of celebrating her 104th Birthday; and

WHEREAS, The Seventh Day Adventist Church of Middletown, New York, is hosting a ceremony in her honor on Saturday, April 27, 2013; and

WHEREAS, Born on April 28, 1909, Irene Wright grew up in North Carolina, living in a small town in the western part of the state until her adolescence; she met her future husband Joseph, while she was working at R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company and living in Raleigh as a teenager; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Wright's mother lived in New York City, and Irene and Joseph soon moved there; they married when Irene was 17 years old; and

WHEREAS, A devout Adventist who converted when she was in her 30s and has held many leadership roles in church, Irene Wright is very thankful for her long life; and

WHEREAS, In 1961, when Irene and Joseph Wright were looking for more space and a better environment to raise their children, they moved from the Bronx to the house on Bull Road in Campbell Hall where she still lives; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Wright commuted from there to his auto mechanic shop in the South Bronx; he died in 1966; and

WHEREAS, Irene Wright sang in her church's choir and was driving until she was 96 years old; she even drove to Florida on her own while she was in her 80s; an avid reader, she tries to stay active by cooking her own meals; and

WHEREAS, Irene Wright bore 10 children, eight of whom are alive; she is the grandmother of 49 grandchildren, and has even more great-grandchildren, as well as great-great-grandchildren, and even some great-great-great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, David Wright, Irene's youngest son, lives with his wife and his mother in the house he grew up in; he credited his mother's long life to her vegetarian diet; and

WHEREAS, This exceptional centenarian, with her zest for life, has inspired and enhanced the lives of her family and friends; and

WHEREAS, This distinguished woman has experienced the incredible joys and sorrows characteristic of and reserved for those with the stamina and courage to savor a full life; and

WHEREAS, This beloved woman has enriched the lives of those around her through her joyous and sincere love for others and through the quiescent charm and wisdom which comes only from a fullness of years; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to publicly recognize those who have reached such a remarkable age and who have witnessed and celebrated the innovations, cultural developments and awesome achievements of this country during the last century, while themselves contributing to the growth and excellence of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Irene Wright upon the occasion of celebrating her 104th Birthday; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Irene Wright.

