

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Josephine McWilliams upon the occasion of celebrating her 100th 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, This Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Josephine McWilliams upon the occasion of her 100th Birthday, celebrated at a party held in her honor at the Hillcrest Spring Residential assisted living facility on Tuesday, April 22, 2014; and

WHEREAS, Josephine McWilliams was born on April 22, 1914, the daughter of Italian immigrants; and

WHEREAS, Growing up on her family's farm in Schenectady, New York, Josephine McWilliams learned the value of hard work, performing such chores as feeding chickens and collecting eggs after walking several miles to school and back on a daily basis; and

WHEREAS, At an early age, this esteemed woman began work as a cashier at a dry cleaners; she later worked at a department store, before starting her career at General Electric; in addition, she taught religious education at St. Anthony's Church; and

WHEREAS, While working at General Electric, Josephine was introduced to her future husband James McWilliams; the two were married in 1955, and started a family at their home in Amsterdam, New York; and

WHEREAS, When not busy with her career, Josephine McWilliams was dedicated to the care of others throughout her long life; she often visited the homes of elderly people, helping with household tasks and doing their grocery shopping; and

WHEREAS, This compassionate woman was a constant presence whenever any of her family or friends fell ill, helping out with cooking and cleaning even into her eighties; and

WHEREAS, Today, Josephine McWilliams still tries to lend a helping hand at Hillcrest Spring Residential where she has resided for the past three years; she has cooked meals in the facility's kitchen, and also helped church members bring back Palm Sunday palms to those patients who could not attend services; and

WHEREAS, This exceptional centenarian, with her zest for life, has inspired and enhanced the lives of all of those around her; 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 Josephine McWilliams upon the occasion of celebrating her 100th Birthday; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Josephine McWilliams.