

BY: Senator GRIFFO

CONGRATULATING Mary Kogut 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, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to commemorate and recognize certain milestones celebrated by citizens of this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Mary Kogut upon the occasion of celebrating her 100th Birthday; a party was held in her honor at the Mohawk Valley Health System in Utica, New York, with many family members in attendance; and

WHEREAS, Mary's parents, John and Henrietta Kogut, immigrated to the United States from Poland; her father was crossing the Atlantic Ocean when the Titanic sank, and her mother came to New York Mills a couple of years later; and

WHEREAS, Mary Kogut was born on July 4, 1921, in New York Mills, New York; as the story has been passed down, after Mary was born her father went out on the back porch of their house and fired a shotgun into the air to announce to the world, or at least to New York Mills, that his wife had delivered a baby girl; in addition to Mary, the Koguts had three sons, Joe, Pete and John, and two daughters, Agnes and Anne; and

WHEREAS, Mary Kogut attended New York Mills High School, Class of 1940; shortly after graduating, she began her accounting career; she loved her work and continued with accounting for the next 70 years; and

WHEREAS, The Matriarch of the Kogut family, Mary enjoyed throwing her Wigilia (Polish Christmas) and Easter parties; many extended family members and friends attended these festive gatherings until just a few years ago when she could no longer host them; and

WHEREAS, Today, Mary Kogut is the proud Aunt of one niece, Linda (Bob) Bluey; and one nephew, John (Sue) Sepanski; two great-nephews, Rob (Missy) Bluey, and Matt Bluey; great niece, Lara Sepanski; three great-great nephews, FJ, Ben and Luke; and great-great niece, Savannah; and

WHEREAS, With her zest for life, this exceptional centenarian has inspired and enhanced the lives of her family and friends; she has truly 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 Mary Kogut upon the occasion of celebrating her 100th Birthday; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Mary Kogut.