

BY: Senator GRIFFO

CONGRATULATING Alice R. Gafner upon the occasion
of celebrating her 108th Birthday

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, 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, Alice R. Gafner, born on December 11, 1917, has reached the remarkable milestone of her 108th birthday, bearing witness to more than a century of historic innovation, cultural development, and achievement in our nation, while herself contributing greatly to the growth and excellence of the City of Rome, New York; and

WHEREAS, A lifetime resident of Rome, Alice R. Gafner grew up on a local farm in Westmoreland, developing a strong work ethic and deep appreciation for community that would guide her throughout her life; and

WHEREAS, At the young age of 18, Alice R. Gafner began her distinguished career in education teaching in a one-room schoolhouse in Coonrod, dedicating herself to shaping young minds with care, patience, and passion; and

WHEREAS, After an illustrious career spanning more than three decades in the field of education, Alice R. Gafner retired in 1982 from the Rome City School District, having touched and enriched the lives of countless students; and

WHEREAS, Alice R. Gafner's zest for life, great sense of humor, sincere love for others and for God, and her enduring spirit have inspired her family and friends throughout her life; and

WHEREAS, She is a proud mother and grandmother, and continues to live in her own home, exercising daily and thriving with the devoted assistance of her friends and caretakers, Celia Bohn and Jean Baron; and

WHEREAS, Through her joyous nature, quiet charm, and the wisdom that comes only from a fullness of years, Alice R. Gafner has enriched the lives of all those around her and exemplifies the very best of our community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Alice R. Gafner upon the occasion of celebrating her 108th Birthday, and to honor her extraordinary longevity, lifetime of service, and enduring contributions to the great State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Alice R. Gafner.