

1 HR77

2 205969-1

3 By Representatives Wilcox, Gaston and Brown (C)

4 RFD:

5 First Read: 03-MAR-20

1 205969-1:n:03/02/2020:MFC**/mfc LSA2020-924

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8 HONORING MARIE ALEXANDRIA POIROUX WILSON WHITE ON
9 THE OCCASION OF HER 99TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION.

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11 WHEREAS, highest commendations and congratulations
12 are herein proudly presented to Marie Alexandria Poiroux
13 Wilson White on the momentous occasion of her 99th Birthday
14 Celebration on March 20, 2020; and

15 WHEREAS, Marie Alexandria Poiroux Wilson White was
16 born March 20, 1921, to August and Jeanne Poiroux; she was the
17 9th of 12 children; she was born three months after her family
18 arrived in Irvington, Alabama, from Manitoba, Canada; and

19 WHEREAS, Mrs. White has faced many obstacles in her
20 life and overcome them with fierce determination, hard work,
21 dedication and prayer; and

22 WHEREAS, Mrs. White had to learn the English
23 language prior to beginning school; and

24 WHEREAS, Mrs. White had to survive on goat's milk as
25 an infant as their only family cow was hit by a train and
26 killed; she grew up working hard on the family farm, waking at
27 4 a.m. to care for the animals, gather eggs, vegetables and

fruits, and help her mother prepare food for all the children before she walked more than three miles to school daily; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. White grew up enjoying her family as they would often celebrate with the neighbors dancing and enjoying the wine served by her father, the son of a great winemaker, who also was known to sell his products to doctors during the Great Depression; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. White met her future husband, Woodrow Wilson, when she was 12 years old when he went to the Poiroux farm to buy goat's milk, and often stayed to help her father and brothers on the farm; and

WHEREAS, in 1934, Mrs. White eloped with Mr. Wilson when she was only 14 years old as he was going to leave for CC Camp and didn't want to leave her to marry someone else; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. White began a 40-year marriage filled with the joy of rearing 12 children with Woodrow Wilson; they are Theresa Wilson Orrell, Doris Davis, Christine Whiteley, Alvin Wilson, Larry Wilson, Julie Wilson Shewmake, Daniel Wilson, Cheryl Wilson Henderson, and Eddie Wilson; she suffered the loss of their children, Jeanette Anglin Wilson, William Wilson, and Edmund Wilson; in addition, she lost two grandchildren, Starla Huber and Gregory Huber, and a great-grandchild, Brittney Anglin; she also lost her first husband to cancer; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. White and her family planted and harvested the fields; one year brought an early spring frost and the entire family had to cover each plant in a 20-acre

1 field with newspaper, pulling dirt onto the paper to hold off
2 the strong winds; harvesting watermelons, which meant rising
3 early to load 18-wheel trucks by tossing the melons by the
4 teenage children and their cousins and friends to someone
5 catching and stacking them; dragging croaker sacks and picking
6 weightless cotton that earned a mere three cents per pound was
7 the job of Marie and the older teenagers for several seasons;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Mrs. White and her family were often moving
10 into tenant houses in the spring, due to the need to live near
11 the farm that they would work; eventually saving enough money
12 to buy a small parcel of land on Old Pascagoula Road; Woodrow
13 then worked at the shipyard and Marie and a neighbor worked to
14 build their first house; and

15 WHEREAS, Mrs. White never learned to drive a car,
16 but gathered her children and met her brother Maurice Poiroux
17 near the side of the road so all the children could jump in
18 his truck and ride to St. Margaret's Church in Bayou La Batre,
19 along with his large family; and

20 WHEREAS, Mrs. White was able to have her children
21 attend a Catholic School due to the older children's working
22 in the school cafeteria and cleaning classrooms after classes
23 every day; and

24 WHEREAS, Mrs. White has always been known for her
25 home remedies; since doctors were very scarce and money as
26 well, she was known to use a whole bottle of aspirin and a

1 quart of buttermilk to save their "Mama" hog who had just
2 given birth to a litter and was very sick; and

3 WHEREAS, Mrs. White learned through trial and error
4 to order, sell, and manage a convenience store that her
5 husband bought; the older children would drive her to the
6 store and catch the bus and the youngest child would stay at
7 the store all day with her; she would cook a large pot of stew
8 or beans for the older children to take home for the evening
9 meal; and

10 WHEREAS, Mrs. White is known as the "Yeast Roll
11 Lady" when her children and friends gather during all special
12 occasions as she will have made her French Yeast Rolls, taught
13 to her by her French mother, for all to enjoy; and

14 WHEREAS, Mrs. White is especially known as a "Prayer
15 Warrior," when neighbors, friends, and fellow church members
16 need special prayers, she is always the one contacted; she
17 reserves two hours a day to watch EWTN and pray while watching
18 the Mass and praying the Rosary; and

19 WHEREAS, Mrs. White had a job at Vanity Fair, where
20 she worked for nine years cutting lace; it was during that
21 time that a friend introduced her to Ernie White; they were
22 married in 1979 and have just celebrated their 41st
23 anniversary; she was happy to add two more children, Junie and
24 Randy, to her big family; and

25 WHEREAS, Mrs. White will be celebrating her 99th
26 birthday with 162 immediate family members, 17 children and
27 spouses, 52 grandchildren, 65 great-grandchildren, 24

1 great-great-grandchildren, and two
2 great-great-great-grandchildren, as well as friends; and
3
4 WHEREAS, Mrs. White will be celebrated as the most
5 beautiful and amazing Mom, Mama, Grandma, and Maw Maw, who
6 answers to all of these names, however, her children all agree
7 that she is the best mother anyone could have asked for; and
8 no matter the hardships, the disappointments, and grief, Mrs.
9 White knows one can survive if you never lose faith; and

9 WHEREAS, a 99th Birthday Celebration is a
10 significant life milestone that represents years of memories
11 earned and wisdom gained and is a cause for great rejoicing;
12 it is a tremendous privilege to recognize such a remarkable
13 individual on her special day; now therefore,

14
15 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
16 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That Marie Alexandria Poiroux
17 Wilson White is honored and commended on the milestone of her
18 99th Birthday Celebration, and this resolution is offered to
19 her in highest tribute, along with sincere best wishes for
continued prosperity.