

By: Dutton

H.R. No. 39

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Gertrude Jack Lewis of Houston is celebrating her  
2 100th birthday on July 17, 2011, to the great delight of her family  
3 and friends; and

4           WHEREAS, The sixth of 13 children in a close-knit family,  
5 Mrs. Lewis was born to Irene and Louis Jack in Sorrel, Louisiana,  
6 and later grew up on Weeks Island; she assumed responsibility at an  
7 early age, helping to care for her younger brothers and sisters and  
8 working in vegetable and sugarcane fields for 20 cents per day; and

9           WHEREAS, Gertrude and Clarence Lewis, Sr., exchanged their  
10 wedding vows on October 13, 1931, at a ceremony held in St. Mary  
11 Parish; the newlyweds subsequently moved to Houston, where they  
12 stayed with the bride's oldest brother, Willie, while they got  
13 settled; Mrs. Lewis and her husband became the proud parents of five  
14 children, Freddie, Lenard, Clarence, William, and Mary, and shared  
15 a rewarding marriage of nearly 70 years, until Mr. Lewis's passing  
16 in 2001; and

17           WHEREAS, Today, Mrs. Lewis still resides in the Trinity  
18 Gardens neighborhood, where she and Mr. Lewis raised their family,  
19 and she is still a member of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church,  
20 which she first started attending with her husband and children  
21 long ago; this beloved matriarch enjoys visits from her children,  
22 her numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren, her three  
23 siblings, and many other relatives and friends; and

24           WHEREAS, Blessed with the affection of a host of loved ones

1 and sustained by her strong faith, Mrs. Lewis has gracefully  
2 reached the century mark and continues to enrich the lives of all  
3 who are fortunate enough to know her; now, therefore, be it

4         RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
5 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby congratulate Gertrude Jack  
6 Lewis on the occasion of her 100th birthday and extend to her  
7 sincere best wishes for continued happiness; and, be it further

8         RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
9 prepared for Mrs. Lewis as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
10 House of Representatives.