

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The 100th birthday of an esteemed Texan is truly  
2 cause for celebration, and Essie Beatrice Stephens of Houston  
3 reached that impressive milestone on February 3, 2019; and

4           WHEREAS, Born in Hosston, Louisiana, in 1919, Mrs. Stephens  
5 and her sister were raised by their maternal grandparents in Caddo  
6 Parish, Louisiana, where they attended school at Mt. Olive Baptist  
7 Church; and

8           WHEREAS, Mrs. Stephens was joined in matrimony to Luther  
9 Hoosin Stephens in 1939, and she shared her life with him for 31  
10 years until his death in 1970; she is the mother of three daughters,  
11 Erma Ballenger, Agnes Parham, and the late Louise Peters, and she  
12 has also been a mother to Rosetta Mayes; over the years, she has  
13 been further blessed with grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and  
14 great-great-grandchildren; and

15           WHEREAS, A longtime resident of Houston, Mrs. Stephens was  
16 actively engaged in the Independence Heights neighborhood, and she  
17 previously worked for several families as a housekeeper; a  
18 wonderful seamstress, she is skilled at designing, sewing, and  
19 altering everything from children's clothing to wedding gowns; she  
20 is also an expert gardener, renowned for her watermelons, okra,  
21 tomatoes, green beans, and collard and mustard greens; deeply  
22 devoted to her faith, she has been a valued member of Good Hope  
23 Missionary Baptist Church for nearly 80 years; and

24           WHEREAS, A source of wisdom and inspiration, Essie Stephens

1 has witnessed a panorama of change during a historic century, and  
2 her 100th birthday offers a welcome opportunity for her loved ones  
3 to acknowledge the special place she holds in their hearts; now,  
4 therefore, be it

5         RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas  
6 Legislature hereby congratulate Essie Beatrice Stephens on her  
7 100th birthday and extend to her sincere best wishes for continued  
8 happiness; and, be it further

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

Johnson of Harris

H.R. No. 291

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 291 was adopted by the House on March 13, 2019, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House