

By: Johnson of Harris

H.R. No. 291

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.