

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 185

BY SENATOR PERRY

A RESOLUTION

To commend Harry and Benita Clostio of Kaplan on seventy-four years of marriage.

WHEREAS, Harry and Benita Clostio, natives of Kaplan, met in the 1930s at the Rock-A-Bye, a once popular dance hall in a country area outside of Kaplan; and

WHEREAS, at the age of twenty, Harry wed his beloved Benita, who was seventeen years old, on November 6, 1937; and

WHEREAS, their life together was difficult in the beginning because they did not own an automobile and found themselves walking long distances to visit family and friends; and

WHEREAS, Harry worked as a tractor mechanic and Benita worked as a sitter at the hospital and the nursing home; and

WHEREAS, eventually, Harry opened his own mechanic business, Clostio and Hardy Oliver Dealership, which operated in Kaplan for more than twenty years; and

WHEREAS, Harry and Benita built their home in 1945 and still reside there; and

WHEREAS, in the 1950s, Harry purchased his first automobile and after years of walking, they "thought they were in heaven"; and

WHEREAS, they waited fourteen years to have children and were blessed with their first son, Russell, and three years later their second son, Danny, arrived; and

WHEREAS, they have six grandchildren, thirteen great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild; and

WHEREAS, Harry and Benita have always kept their family a priority and the Clostio family remains tight knit and they receive visits from their extended family frequently; and

WHEREAS, Harry credits the secret of their long marriage to loving one another and knowing when to say "Yes, ma'am."; and

WHEREAS, Harry, who is ninety-five years young, and his lovely wife, Benita, who is ninety-one years young, live in their home unassisted, and Benita still handles all of the cooking and the cleaning while Harry handles the driving; and

WHEREAS, this special couple's commitment to each other is a beautiful example of lifelong love and devotion that is an inspiration to their entire community, and they have touched the lives of all who know and love them; and

WHEREAS, the Clostios' seventy-four years of marriage is a joyous and memorable occasion that merits sincere congratulations.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Harry and Benita Clostio of Kaplan upon the celebration of their seventy-fourth anniversary, does hereby express enduring appreciation for the tremendous pride and honor they bring to their family, friends, community, and state, and does hereby extend very best wishes to this wonderful couple for continued happiness and bountiful blessings as they enjoy their future years together.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Harry and Benita Clostio.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE