

2022 -- S 2499

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

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SENATE RESOLUTION

JOYOUSLY CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF MS. DORABELLE SMITH ON  
FEBRUARY 21, 2022, AND THANKING HER FOR HER SERVICE TO OUR NATION

Introduced By: Senator V. Susan Sosnowski

Date Introduced: March 01, 2022

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1           WHEREAS, The year 1922, the year of Ms. Dorabelle Smith’s birth, was an important  
2 time in American and World history. The Lincoln Memorial was dedicated, the BBC was formed,  
3 the Irish Free State was established, famed Center Court was completed at Wimbledon, and the  
4 “new technology” of radio was exploding across the United States and the world; and

5           WHEREAS, Prices of goods in 1922 are hard to believe for folks of later generations. A  
6 fresh chicken was only 30 cents a pound, lean fresh pork roast was only 12 cents a pound, eggs  
7 were 35 cents a dozen, a sixteen ounce loaf of bread was only five cents, and a new frying pan  
8 could be attained for merely ten cents; and

9           WHEREAS, The world welcomed Ms. Dorabelle Smith on February 21, 1922. She was  
10 born in Pennsylvania, and during World War II she enlisted in the United States Navy and went  
11 to boot camp in the State of New York. She then proceeded to attend Tech School in Oklahoma  
12 and served our nation with tireless devotion and distinction as an airplane mechanic at Quonset  
13 Naval Air Station from 1942 to the end of the Second World War. While serving in the Navy,  
14 Ms. Smith, whose maiden name was Johnson, was given the nickname of “Johnnie”, a name she  
15 goes by to this day; and

16           WHEREAS, After her service, Ms. Smith settled in Rhode Island where she and her  
17 husband, Laurence Smith, raised three children. She later retired from the Navy Exchange and  
18 has lived a very full and active life in retirement. One of the highlights of her retirement years  
19 occurred on September 15, 2018, when she fittingly was chosen to be a member of the Honor

1 Flight, a nonprofit organization dedicated to transporting as many veterans as possible to see the  
2 memorials of the wars they served in, at no cost to the veterans. Ms. Smith also had the honor of  
3 being one of the veterans to lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, an event she says  
4 she will never forget; now, therefore be it

5 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby joyously celebrates the  
6 100th Birthday of Ms. Dorabelle Smith on February 21, 2022, and thanks her for her service to  
7 our nation during World War II; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
9 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Ms. Dorabelle Smith.

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