

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 12

By Halford

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Mary Ruth Atkins on the celebration of her ninety-ninth birthday.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the elected representatives of the state of Tennessee should recognize those citizens who are celebrating milestones in their venerable lives; and

WHEREAS, Mary Ruth Atkins celebrated her ninety-ninth birthday in November of 2012, an occasion that was commemorated with great joy in remembering the past, giving thanks for the present, and eagerly anticipating the future; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Atkins grew up in and around Gibson, at one time riding a horse to school and then later taking a buggy to school; and

WHEREAS, for decades, Mrs. Atkins has played a vital role in the Gibson community, reporting each week in the *Humboldt Chronicle*; and

WHEREAS, much beloved by her fellow citizens, she remains in relatively good health and still enjoys gardening and sewing baby quilts; and

WHEREAS, she is an active member of the Gibson Garden Club and the Fabulous Females; and

WHEREAS, Mary Ruth Atkins and her late husband, James Robert Atkins, operated R.G. James Grocery in Gibson for many years. Their late son, Robert Dale Atkins, founded the R.G. James Produce Company in Gibson in the late 1950s; and

WHEREAS, as she approaches her eleventh decade, Mrs. Atkins remains an active and productive member of the Gibson community, as her health permits; and

WHEREAS, the members of this body find it appropriate to pause in their deliberations to specially recognize one of Tennessee's finest citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE

CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Mary Ruth Atkins on the celebration of her ninety-ninth birthday and extend to her our best wishes for good health and happiness in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.