

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1084

By Gant

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Novella Clark Avant Morrow on the celebration of her 100th birthday.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly pay tribute to those citizens who are celebrating special occasions in their estimable lives; and

WHEREAS, Novella Clark Avant Morrow will celebrate her 100th birthday on April 17, 2024, a milestone that will be commemorated as yet another precious souvenir of life's rich pageant; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Morrow has not only attained the remarkable milestone of reaching a century but has also lived through many historical events, including instances of racial injustice, that have shaped our communities and this great nation; and

WHEREAS, her life's journey has been marked by resilience, courage, and an unwavering commitment to justice, equality, and community spirit; and

WHEREAS, Novella Clark Avant Morrow was born to loving parents, L.B. Avant and Darlene Clark Avant, and grew up alongside eight other siblings, who she lovingly and steadfastly protected; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Morrow only attended school through fifth grade due to work responsibilities as a sharecropper at the Ames Plantation; and

WHEREAS, a devoutly religious woman, Novella Clark Avant Morrow lives on her own, embodying the strength and faith of her deeply held convictions; and

WHEREAS, she is not only a gardener, cultivating both plants and relationships within her community, but also a caregiver and community leader, selflessly contributing to the well-being of those around her; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Morrow has faced and overcome the challenges of historical racism and sexism, including significant events such as the Women's Suffrage Movement and the fight

for Civil Rights and Equality under the law, demonstrating heroism and bravery that serve as an inspiration to all; and

WHEREAS, born on April 17, 1924, Novella Clark Avant Morrow has contributed immeasurably to her community, leaving an indelible mark on the hearts and minds of those who have had the privilege of knowing her; and

WHEREAS, her enduring spirit and dedication to the principles that make Tennessee strong make her a symbol of unity and shared history; and

WHEREAS, we wish to grasp this golden opportunity to specially recognize one of Tennessee's most outstanding citizens on this very special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Novella Clark Avant Morrow on the celebration of her 100th birthday, applaud her heroism, bravery, and enduring spirit, which serve as an inspiration to the citizens of our great state, and extend to her our best wishes for much continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.