

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 7003 of the First Extraordinary Session

By Hill T

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Elza L. Stout 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, Elza L. Stout will celebrate her 100th birthday on September 10, 2019, a milestone that will be commemorated as yet another precious souvenir of life's rich pageant; and

WHEREAS, born Mary Elza Lipford on September 10, 1919, in "old Butler" in Johnson County, Mrs. Stout is the daughter of Mary Ellen and Valentine Lipford; and

WHEREAS, a proud graduate of Watauga Academy in Butler, she was joined in holy matrimony with Gale M. Stout on September 20, 1946, and the couple relocated to Doe Valley. Both the Lipford and Stout families were forced to move from their original homes when Watauga Lake was built; and

WHEREAS, Gale and Elza Stout's joyous union produced two daughters, Gay Blackmon and Mary Etta Long; two granddaughters, Rachel Reyes and Rebekah Matthews; and two great-granddaughters, Ella Marie Reyes and Abigale Reyes; and

WHEREAS, a conscientious and hard worker who excelled in every endeavor that she pursued, Mrs. Stout served in a number of positions throughout her working years; during World War II, she was employed at Radford Ordinance Works, where she made black and smokeless powders for the war effort; and

WHEREAS, Elza Stout was also a homemaker and a kindergarten aide at Doe School for more than fifteen years, in addition to working on her family's farm; and

WHEREAS, apart from her various vocations, Mrs. Stout has always been a talented seamstress; over the years, she designed and made dresses for her daughters and herself. She has also enjoyed quilting and crocheting; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Stout is a faithful member of Bethany Baptist Church in Doe Valley, which she has served in a variety of capacities, including as Sunday School teacher and WMU leader; and

WHEREAS, as Elza Stout enters her eleventh decade, she is the honored matriarch of her family and a blessing to all who are fortunate to know her; 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 ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Elza L. Stout on the celebration of her 100th birthday and extend to her our best wishes for continued happiness.

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