

2011-K550

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Mildred Stephens Lemos upon the occasion of celebrating her 104th Birthday

WHEREAS, Senior citizens bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to the increasingly active roles they play in today's society; their past contributions and future participation are a vital part of, and valuable asset to, the fabric of community life and activity; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Mildred Stephens Lemos upon the occasion of celebrating her 104th Birthday on Thursday, May 5, 2011; and

WHEREAS, One of ten children, Mildred Stephens Lemos was born on May 5, 1907, in Southport, New York, to John and Elizabeth Stephens; and

WHEREAS, Mildred's father John was born and raised in Bavaria but left the country on a boat to America, at the age of 17, in an effort to avoid being inducted into the German Army; it was when he landed in New York from Bavaria that he met and married her mother Elizabeth and together they started their large family in the new land; and

WHEREAS, Mildred Stephens Lemos received her teaching degree from Oneonta College and obtained her first teaching position in Belmont, Long Island, New York, where she taught for four years before relocating to Harrison in Westchester County; and

WHEREAS, After her move from Belmont, Mildred Stephens Lemos joined the Harrison Central School District; she taught fourth grade for 20 years, on the third floor in the attic, at Parsons Memorial Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, Mildred Stephens Lemos transferred to Pleasant Ridge Elementary School where she remained for twenty years as a second grade teacher; and

WHEREAS, Mildred Stephens Lemos retired from the Harrison Central School District in 1973, at the age of 66, after over 40 years of employment; she has no children of her own but is fortunate to consider all of her beloved past students "her Children"; and

WHEREAS, Mildred Stephens Lemos remarkably drove her car until the age

of 98 when she decided to give up driving; until she reached the age of 99, she walked to the stores as well as to the post office downtown; and WHEREAS, Today, Mildred Stephens Lemos keeps herself active by reading, gardening, and having frequent visits by the local police and nearby friendly neighbors; and

WHEREAS, While Mildred Lemos is privileged to be provided with the Meals on Wheels program from the town of Harrison during the week, she still cooks for herself on weekends; and

WHEREAS, This exceptional centenarian, with her zest for life, has inspired and enhanced the lives of her family and friends; and

WHEREAS, This distinguished woman has experienced the incredible joys and sorrows characteristic of and reserved for those with the stamina and courage to savor a full life; and

WHEREAS, This beloved woman has enriched the lives of those around her through her joyous and sincere love for others and through the quiescent charm and wisdom which come only from a fullness of years; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to publicly recognize those who have reached such a remarkable age and who have witnessed and celebrated the innovations, cultural developments and awesome achievements of this country during the last century, while themselves contributing to the growth and excellence of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Mildred Stephens Lemos upon the occasion of celebrating her 104th Birthday; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Mildred Stephens Lemos, Second Street, Harrison, New York.