

## 2015-J3629

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Earnestine Yvonne Berry upon the occasion of celebrating her 101st Birthday on February 28, 2016

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, Earnestine Yvonne was born in Beloit, Alabama, on February 28, 1915, the 13th out of 15 children, to Phillip and Lucille Crenshaw; and

WHEREAS, She attended school for her early education in Beloit; when she was of age, she left Alabama and went to Los Angeles, California, where she lived for 11 years; and

WHEREAS, In June of 1953, Earnestine Yvonne left California and migrated to New York; since then, she has made this great Empire State her home; it was here she found Carter AME Community Church located in Jamaica, New York; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, while attending church, she met the love of her life, Eugene Berry, and the couple married on February 19, 1954; married for 23 years, they were the proud parents of one son, the late George Kevin Berry; and

WHEREAS, Later, the Berry's joined the Tabernacle CME Church located in St. Albans, New York, which, in 1960, came under the luminous direction of The Reverend Eugene Berry; today, Earnestine Yvonne continues to sing with the Senior Choir, and has served as President of the Stewardship Board; and

WHEREAS, In addition, she worked for the Board of Education for 35 years, and has been an active member of her community; and

WHEREAS, This exceptional centenarian, who still resides in a lovely

home and does not use a cane, has inspired and enhanced the lives of her family and friends with her refreshing zest for life; and

WHEREAS, Earnestine Yvonne Berry, who loves movies and enjoys shopping and cooking, 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 comes 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 Earnestine Yvonne Berry upon the occasion of celebrating her 101st Birthday; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Earnestine Yvonne Berry.