

Senate Resolution 379

By: Senator Meyer von Bremen of the 12th

A RESOLUTION

1 Congratulating Harriett Riggins McGee on the occasion of her 117th birthday; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Harriett Riggins was born on March 14, 1884, on a farm near Leesburg,
4 Georgia, the first of seven children of John and Jenny Riggins; and

5 WHEREAS, her life was filled with hard work, first picking cotton and corn, and later she
6 left the fields to work for a Dougherty County school cafeteria and the TipTop restaurant for
7 21 years; and

8 WHEREAS, she married while she was in her teens; and

9 WHEREAS, her life has encompassed a lot of change, and she can recall seeing a "horseless
10 carriage" for the first time, riding in a Model T truck, seeing the terrible damage to
11 downtown Albany, Georgia, from the 1940 tornado, and using ration cards during the war;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, although the arthritis in her feet keeps her from walking much these days, she
14 recalls winning \$50.00 as a prize for her dancing; and

15 WHEREAS, she remembers going to hear Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., when he spoke at Mt.
16 Zion Baptist Church in Albany in 1961, and watching television reports about the
17 assassination of Dr. King and President Kennedy; and

18 WHEREAS, she has lived through the terms of 22 presidents and regards former President
19 Bill Clinton as the best; and

20 WHEREAS, the gleam in her eyes and her frequent laughter have endeared her to all who
21 know her; and

1 WHEREAS, she was taken into the church at the age of 13 and her faith has sustained her
2 through many travails in her life.

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
4 congratulate Harriett Riggins McGee on her 117th birthday and extend sincere wishes for
5 many more happy birthdays.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
7 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Harriett Riggins McGee.