

2013-J4560

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Ruth Whitbeck Bush upon the occasion of celebrating her 100th 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, Ruth Whitbeck Bush was born on April 27, 1914; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Ruth Whitbeck Bush upon the occasion of celebrating her 100th Birthday; this auspicious milestone will be feted with a family gathering on Sunday, April 27, 2014, at the Wayne County Nursing Home, Lyons, New York; and

WHEREAS, The daughter of Clair W.V. Whitbeck and the former Leah Rappole, Ruth Whitbeck Bush was born in Fulton, New York; she and her sister were raised in Cortland, New York, by their aunt, Bessie Lewis; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Whitbeck Bush graduated from Cortland Normal School, now SUNY Cortland, in 1935, and taught Kindergarten/Elementary School in Valley Stream, Long Island, for one year, before moving to Newark, New York, to join her future husband; and

WHEREAS, In July 1937, Ruth Whitbeck married Bernald C. Bush, and the couple enjoyed more than 63 years of marriage until his death in 2001; this joyful union produced three children, the late Carolyn, James, and William; and

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

WHEREAS, The loving grandmother of Jeffrey, Scott, Peter, and Emily, and the adoring great-grandmother of Oliver and Henry, Ruth Whitbeck Bush has enjoyed a lifetime of friendships in the Newark, New York area,

as well as close friendships cultivated over many summers at the family cottage on Owasco Lake; and

WHEREAS, Committed to education and civic engagement, Ruth Whitbeck Bush was a member and organizer of the League of Women Voters in Newark around 1938, a Guidance Teacher for Preschool Day Nursery, a member of the Newark Traveler's Club, and worked at times for the Newark Public Library; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Whitbeck Bush has been a dedicated member of Park Presbyterian Church for nearly 74 years, and has served the church in several capacities; she was Director of the Youth Choir, a Sunday School teacher, and an organizer of the Women's Circle, as well as the annual bazaar; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Ruth Whitbeck Bush was a longtime member of the Historical Society of Early American Decoration (HSEAD), Esther Stevens Brazer Guild, where she developed her skills in early American decoration to the point of instructing others in such specialties as theorem painting, stenciling, gold leaf and country tin painting; along with her efforts in early American artwork, Ruth is accomplished in rug hooking, including the dyeing and cutting of the fabric; 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 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 Ruth Whitbeck Bush upon the occasion of her 100th Birthday; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Ruth Whitbeck Bush.