

House Resolution No. 4700

Whereas, Louise Helen Wilhelm came into this world on November 23, 1916, in Clifton Forge, Virginia, as the first of what would be seventeen children born into the family of Chisem Pearl Wilhelm and his beloved wife, the former Lilly Della Callahan; and

Whereas, on May 10, 1940, Louise Wilhelm became Mrs. Porter Huston Rayburn in a wonderful relationship which has lasted nearly sixty-four years and is still going strong; and

Whereas, the loving mother of Suzette Louise Rayburn Wells, Louise Wilhelm Rayburn grew up in Clifton Forge, lived in Toledo, Ohio, for seventeen years, and resided in Kansas City North for twelve years before moving to her current residence on a farm in Richmond, Missouri; and

Whereas, after reaching the age of fifty, Louise Rayburn added the pastime of riding horses to her other interests which included exhibiting and grooming poodles; working in a small quilt shop as a salesperson and instructor; doing such handwork as knitting garments and afghans and piecing and quilting numerous quilts, wall hangings and decorative home items; and creating numerous "Pouty Baby" dolls to sell and to give away; and

Whereas, today Louise Rayburn collects antiques to use in decorating her home and to give to her daughter, other family members, and friends, and she cares for a menagerie of pets that includes four parrots, a cockatiel, a cat, and a Pomeranian; and

Whereas, five-foot-tall Louise Rayburn possesses boundless energy, a gift of speaking her mind, and a desire to celebrate her one hundredth birthday on a cruise with her 6'3" husband who admires, encourages, and supports his wife's dedication to helping others through wholehearted giving to people and animals:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the long, productive, and caring life of Louise Rayburn, to convey to her this legislative body's heartiest congratulations upon reaching the age of eighty-seven, and to express our best wishes that she fulfill her wish to become a Missouri Centenarian one day in the future; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of Louise Helen Wilhelm Rayburn of Richmond, Missouri.

Offered by _____
 Representative Gary Kelly
 District No. 36

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 4700, adopted November 19, 2003.

 Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker