

## House Resolution No. 4851

**Whereas**, it is special pleasure that the members of the Missouri House of Representatives pause to recognize the life and lifetime achievements of one of the Show-Me State's most beloved senior citizens; and

**Whereas**, Ophus Shoemate, a cherished resident of Vandalia, Missouri, commemorated the resplendent occasion of his One Hundred Fifth Birthday with a festive celebration and family dinner held at his home on November 13, 2003; and

**Whereas**, Ophus Shoemate came into this world in Licking, Missouri, on November 13, 1898, as the tiny infant son born to proud and loving parents Marion and Nancy Shoemate, who relocated to the Vandalia community when Ophus was a young boy; and

**Whereas**, Ophus Shoemate shared sixty-nine years of wedded success and happiness with his beloved Jennie, a kind and loving woman whom he married after riding a train on the "Shortline Railroad" to the City of New London for the memorable wedding ceremony; and

**Whereas**, a proud father and caring husband, Ophus Shoemate provided a safe and secure future for his loved ones through fifty years of tireless endeavor as a farmer in the Liberty community; and

**Whereas**, a devout member of Spencer Creek Baptist Church, Ophus Shoemate has been abundantly blessed with the love and admiration of a wonderful family whose members include his devoted wife, Jennie (deceased); his daughter, Doris Nation; his grandson, William R. Nation; his grandson's wife, Ruth E. Nation; and his two great-grandchildren, Christopher and Elisabeth Nation; and

**Whereas**, now one hundred five years young, Ophus Shoemate faces the beginning of each day with renewed hope and happiness and continues to lead a good Christian life, sharing his experiences and exciting stories of times gone by with those he holds most dear:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, unanimously join in extending our most heartfelt congratulations and birthday greetings to Ophus Shoemate as he proudly celebrates one hundred five years of achievement, and in wishing him much peace and contentment as he continues his journey along life's path; 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 for Missouri centenarian Ophus Shoemate, as a mark of our esteem for him.

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_  
 Representative Terry L. Witte  
 District No. 10

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. 4851, adopted December 16, 2003.

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Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker