**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE PAUL DAVID “TAR” OUTLAW OF LEXINGTON COUNTY ON THE OCCASION OF HIS NINETIETH BIRTHDAY AND TO WISH HIM MUCH HAPPINESS IN THE DAYS AHEAD.

Whereas, on March 24, 2021, Paul David “Tar” Outlaw of Lexington County awakened to the celebration of a milestone event, his ninetieth birthday; and

Whereas, born in Charlotte, North Carolina, on March 24, 1931, Tar Outlaw was the son of George Earl Outlaw and Letha Ellen Crouch Outlaw. They nicknamed him “Tar Baby,” because he was born in the Tar Heel State. In 1933, the young Tar settled with his parents in the Styx area of Lexington County, South Carolina, as one of the original families there. Styx would become the Town of South Congaree in 1957; and

Whereas, Tar graduated from Brookland‑Cayce High School in 1949 and joined the U.S. Air Force to serve his country in Korea, as well as in other locales; and

Whereas, while serving in the Air Force in California, he met the lovely Martha Nell Gipson on a blind date. The two young people wed on May 18, 1954, and moved to Tar’s last Air Force station, in El Paso, Texas. In December 1954, Tar returned home to West Columbia with his new bride. That same month, he purchased a car, “Old Yeller,” which today still sits in its special place of honor and protection at Tar’s home; and

Whereas, Tar Outlaw returned to work with his brother‑in‑law, Ernest M. Vining, at Vining and Outlaw Garage, one of the original businesses in the Town of South Congaree. Tar continued in partnership and ownership of Vining and Outlaw Garage, which transitioned to V&O Dependable, until the sale of the business and Tar’s retirement around 2019; and

Whereas, the only surviving member of the original town wardens at the incorporation of the Town of South Congaree in 1957, Tar was sworn into office in August of that year, having received forty‑five votes in the town’s first election. He served the town for many years on various boards and committees; and

Whereas, he served his community through many organizations, especially Dunn’s Chapel Church, where he was a steward for eight years and taught Sunday School for forty‑five years; and

Whereas, over the years, Tar found strength for his labors in the strong support of his family: his dear wife, Martha Nell Gipson Outlaw (“Miss Babe”); their four children, Tara Gale, Pattie Nell, Paul Rex, and David Leslie “Les”; and, later, the senior Outlaws’ ten grandchildren and twelve great‑grandchildren. Tar was the loving, caring, and supportive caregiver of Miss Babe until her death in 2007 after fifty‑three years of marriage; and

Whereas, having renewed acquaintance with a former classmate, JoAnne Whitlock Neese, Tar embarked on matrimony a second time, wedding JoAnne on June 23, 2009; and

Whereas, a man who loves to tinker with anything mechanical, Tar has restored many old cars and tractors. Moreover, he always can be found gardening, spending time with family and friends, and working on the property at “Leo” in the Fairview region of Lexington County; and

Whereas, it is a great pleasure to honor this adopted son of South Carolina at the celebration of his ninetieth birthday and to join with his family and friends in congratulating him on reaching this important life milestone. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate Paul David “Tar” Outlaw of Lexington County on the occasion of his ninetieth birthday and wish him much happiness in the days ahead.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Paul David “Tar” Outlaw.

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