

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 111

BY SENATORS DORSEY-COLOMB AND ERDEY

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Rennie Elizabeth Wascom Stewart.

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret that the members of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana have learned of the passing of Rennie Elizabeth Wascom Stewart on Saturday, April 26, 2014, at the age of ninety-seven; and

WHEREAS, Rennie Elizabeth Wascom Stewart, a former resident of Livingston, Louisiana, and forty-five year resident of Albany, Louisiana, was born on February 23, 1917, the oldest daughter and one of nine children of the late William David Wascom and Beatrice Virginia Gates Wascom of Holden, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, she grew up on a small farm with strawberries as the primary money crop, attended school in Holden, and her most delightful recreation was swimming; and

WHEREAS, she met Norman Stewart and on January 10, 1934, they were married, while Rennie was still in high school; and

WHEREAS, she was preceded in death by her husband on April 24, 1973, and Mrs. Stewart had been a widow for forty-one years and two days; and

WHEREAS, she was also preceded in death by all four brothers and one sister: Neumay, Percy, William Jr., Clifton, and Catherine Mae Wascom Aime; and

WHEREAS, she is survived by three sisters: Mildred Wascom Stewart Lewis, Fanny Lucille Wascom Kinchen, and Doris Wascom Collins Carney; five children and their spouses: Benjamin and Joyce Simeon Stewart, Jacky and Norma Snelgrove Stewart, Chalmous Stewart, Joyce Ann Stewart and Paul J. Cook, and Charlotte Stewart-Smith and Ronnie Smith; fourteen grandchildren including eight grandsons and six granddaughters: David Kevin Stewart, John Paul Stewart, Richard Norman Stewart, Stephen Brent Stewart, Chalmous Logan Stewart, Wilson Nilsson Kain, Barnabas Quentin Hoffman, Nathan Daniel Aime; Carmela Stewart Matthews, Glenda Jenee Fox, Karen Sue Fox, April McKeel Holliday, Alysha Stewart Howes, and Amanda Stewart Walden; and by twenty-three great-grandchildren and ten great-great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Rennie was a member of the Holiness faith and The Lone Pine Church of God in Albany and spent her widowed years writing religious tracts and trying to guide all to repentance and eternal life as serving the Lord brought her great joy and kept a smile on her face; and

WHEREAS, she also wrote her life story and shared it with many family members and friends; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Rennie was also known as "Granny Stewart" and was featured in The Hammond Daily Star and the Livingston Parish News in articles highlighting her love of music and her participation in "The Granny Stewart Band" as well as her last adventurous ride on the back of her son's motorcycle only a year ago; and

WHEREAS, Rennie Elizabeth Wascom Stewart has left an abiding void in the many lives she touched throughout her life and her memory shall remain eternal in the hearts and minds of all those who knew and loved her.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express its sincere sorrow and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Rennie Elizabeth Wascom Stewart, does hereby recognize her extraordinary faith and many years of service, does hereby record for posterity her tremendous gifts, and does hereby express the deep regret of the entire state upon the loss of this remarkable woman.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE