

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 367

BY REPRESENTATIVE YOUNG

A RESOLUTION

To commend Thelma Alice Smith Washington Williams upon the celebration of her one hundredth birthday.

WHEREAS, Thelma Alice Smith Washington Williams celebrated her one hundredth birthday on January 14, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Thelma Alice Smith Washington Williams was born on January 14, 1925, in Charleston, West Virginia, to Dr. Dennis Edward and Willia G. Hundley Smith; she earned a bachelor's degree in health and physical education from Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland, and completed a master's degree at West Virginia University; and

WHEREAS, Thelma moved to Grambling, Louisiana, in 1956 and began work as an assistant professor of health and physical education and dance instructor at Grambling College; she also worked at Grambling High School later in her career; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Williams is a woman of many talents; she authored a book, *Grambling, A Pictorial History*, and other works of historical study; she received dance training at Carnegie Hall in New York City and has choreographed hundreds of debutante balls, pageants, musicals, weddings, programs, dance recitals, and movies; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Williams has mentored thousands of youth in their quest for success, and she is in frequent demand as a speaker in her region; she also hosted a weekly radio and cable television show produced at Grambling State University; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Williams is a civic-minded woman who has actively served on numerous community committees, and a community service award has been named in her honor; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Williams is a member Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., and New Rocky Valley Baptist Church in Grambling; she is also the mother of three children and has three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Thelma Alice Smith Washington Williams is most deserving of the highest recognition for a lifetime of service to the Grambling community.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Thelma Alice Smith Washington Williams upon the celebration of her one hundredth birthday and does hereby extend sincerest wishes that she continue to prosper in all of her endeavors.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES