

2021 SPECIAL SESSION I

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 554

Offered February 22, 2021

Commending Ada Singletary.

Patrons—Krizek and Levine

WHEREAS, Ada Singletary, a beloved centenarian and the oldest living resident of the Gum Springs community in Fairfax County, celebrates her 101st birthday on March 22, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Ada Singletary was born and raised along Old Mount Vernon Road in Gum Springs, which is the longest standing African American community in Fairfax County, with origins dating back more than 188 years; and

WHEREAS, Ada Singletary attended Gum Springs School as a child and was an avid dancer and photographer in her teenage years; she often attended dances at neighboring Fort Belvoir and met her husband at a dance contest there during World War II; and

WHEREAS, growing up at a time when people predominantly traveled by horse and buggy and Northern Virginia was still largely rural, Ada Singletary has witnessed extraordinary societal change in her lifetime; and

WHEREAS, Ada Singletary contributed greatly to the success and well-being of countless children, both in and out of the classroom, during a 17-year career with Fairfax County Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, as a testament to her roots in the community, Ada Singletary continues to live in the same home that belonged to her mother and on land that was owned by her grandfather approximately a century ago; and

WHEREAS, an active and engaged member of her community, Ada Singletary has regularly volunteered with the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association over the years, supporting the organization's mission to preserve and maintain the Mount Vernon estate of President George Washington; and

WHEREAS, the New Gum Springs Civic Association recently honored Ada Singletary by naming her grand marshal of the 2018 Gum Springs Community Day and Parade, part of its celebration of the 185th anniversary of Gum Springs; and

WHEREAS, a longtime and faithful member of the Bethlehem Baptist Church of Gum Springs, Ada Singletary was baptized at the age of 12 and has been guided by her deep and abiding faith ever since; and

WHEREAS, as an exemplar of the country's Greatest Generation and one of the oldest living citizens of the Commonwealth, Ada Singletary is an inspiration to all Virginians; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Ada Singletary, a treasured member of the Gum Springs community, hereby be commended on the occasion of her 101st birthday; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Ada Singletary as an expression of the House of Delegates' congratulations and best wishes.

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