**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR DEBORAH WHELAN OF PAWLEYS ISLAND FOR HER STRONG SUPPORT OF RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE AND TO CONGRATULATE HER ON RECEIVING THE NATIONAL CITIZEN SCIENTIST CHAMPION AWARD FROM THE GLOBAL ALZHEIMER’S PLATFORM FOUNDATION.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that on Thursday, February 11, 2021, Deborah Whelan of Pawleys Island will be presented with the National Citizen Scientist Champion Award from the Global Alzheimer’s Platform Foundation for her commitment to Alzheimer’s research; and

Whereas, Alzheimer’s disease is a national public health crisis affecting 5.8 million Americans, including ninety‑five thousand South Carolinians. Ninety percent of Alzheimer’s studies are delayed, due to insufficient participant recruitment, making research participants the key to finding a cure; and

Whereas, the Global Alzheimer’s Platform Foundation National Citizen Scientist Champion Award honors a clinical trial volunteer who fights for a cause and is an advocate for trial participation in the community; and

Whereas, a volunteer at Roper St. Francis Research and Innovation Center in Charleston, Deborah Whelan personally has made extraordinary efforts to support local research and participate in an Alzheimer’s trial. Indeed, to this point she has participated in four studies. She also travels one hundred fifty miles every month for appointments and has spoken about her experience at multiple RSF Research and Innovation Center outreach events, making her a leading advocate in educating potential volunteers about research opportunities; and

Whereas, servant‑hearted people like Deborah provide hope that we will find a cure for Alzheimer’s. The House, grateful for the efforts of Deborah Whelan to that end, takes much pleasure in saluting her as she accepts this well‑deserved tribute, the National Citizen Scientist Champion Award. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, honor Deborah Whelan of Pawleys Island for her strong support of research opportunities for Alzheimer’s disease and congratulate her on receiving the National Citizen Scientist Champion Award from the Global Alzheimer’s Platform Foundation.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Deborah Whelan.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑