**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE JOSEPH MCABEE OF WOODRUFF ON WINNING THE 2010 PAULETTA AND DENZEL WASHINGTON FAMILY SCHOLAR IN NEUROSCIENCE AWARD.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that Joseph McAbee of Woodruff, a rising junior at Wofford College, has recently been named the recipient of the seventh annual Pauletta and Denzel Washington Family Scholar in Neuroscience Award; and

Whereas, actor Denzel Washington and his wife presented Joseph with the award at a ceremony at Harlem Village Academies, a public charter school in New York City, on June 7, 2010; and

Whereas, Joseph, a premed biology major and graduate of Woodruff High, is the only undergraduate to receive the national honor. The program provides $2,000 to $2,500 in monthly support for recipients to work during the summer under the direction of faculty and staff mentors, the ultimate purpose being preparation of a scientific abstract or paper for submission to a national neuroscience, cancer, or neurosurgery organization; and

Whereas, this summer, Joseph will study with research teams in the Department of Neurosurgery at Cedars‑Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. He will work in the Dendritic Cell Vaccination Lab at Cedars‑Sinai, which is under the direction of the center’s chief of neurosurgery, Dr. Keith Black, and principal investigator Dr. Christopher J. Wheeler. While there, Joseph will learn several research techniques that are vital in not only neuroscience research but also scientific research in general; and

Whereas, it was reading Dr. Black’s autobiography, *Brain Surgeon*, last summer that made Joseph aware of the program. He also read two books written by Dr. Benjamin Carson, director of the Division of Pediatric Neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins Medical Center, which also inspired Joseph to pursue a career in neurosurgery. Joseph believes mention of that fact set his application essay apart for the selection committee, which was composed of several world‑renowned physicians and research scientists. The biggest weight was given, however, to the strong academic and personal recommendations written for Joseph by Wofford faculty members; and

Whereas, a well‑rounded young man, Joseph plays on his college’s Ultimate (frisbee) team, enjoys performing on French horn, regularly volunteers at Spartanburg Regional Medical Center, and counts church and his faith in God as critical parts of his life. He also enjoys movies, particularly Denzel Washington vehicles; and

Whereas, the House of Representatives applauds Joseph McAbee for being named winner of the 2010 Pauletta and Denzel Washington Family Scholar in Neuroscience Award and extends best wishes for much success in his studies this summer. The members look with interest to the unfolding of his career as he completes his studies at Wofford College and begins the next level of education for his life’s work. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate Joseph McAbee of Woodruff on winning the 2010 Pauletta and Denzel Washington Family Scholar in Neuroscience Award.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Joseph McAbee.

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