

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 648

By Freeman

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Alexandra Walsh upon winning a silver medal in swimming at the 2020 Summer Olympic Games.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should recognize those exemplary athletes who, through their determination, ability, and endurance, have distinguished themselves as champions in the realm of international athletic competition; and

WHEREAS, one such dynamic athlete is Alexandra Walsh, who won a silver medal in swimming in the women's 200-meter individual medley event at the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo, Japan; and

WHEREAS, a Nashville native, Ms. Walsh was born on July 31, 2001, to Robert and Glynis Walsh and graduated from Harpeth Hall High School in Nashville in 2020; and

WHEREAS, currently a student at the University of Virginia, Alexandra Walsh is coached by Todd DeSorbo and competes as a member of the U.S. National Team, as does her younger sister, Gretchen Walsh; and

WHEREAS, Alexandra Walsh launched her swimming career at a young age and quickly rose to an elite level as a member of the Nashville Aquatic Club; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Walsh won silver in the 400-meter freestyle relay and 400-meter medley relay at the 2017 FINA World Junior Championships, where she also placed fourth in the 200-meter individual medley; and

WHEREAS, she finished first in the 200-meter individual medley and the 400-meter freestyle relay at the 2018 Junior Pan Pacific Swimming Championships; and

WHEREAS, at the 2019 Pan American Games in Lima, Peru, Alexandra Walsh went three for three in gold medals for her swims; she earned her first major international gold on the

second day of competition, swam the second leg of the 4x200-meter free relay to help Team USA win the gold on day four, and registered a victory in the 200-meter individual medley to attain her third gold medal of the games on the fifth day of competition; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Walsh broke the 17-18 National Age Group record in the women's 200-meter individual medley at the 2019 U.S. Open in Atlanta, Georgia, and came in second in the A final; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, she won the 200-meter individual medley at the U.S. Olympic Swimming Trials to qualify for the postponed 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo, Japan; and

WHEREAS, at the 2020 Summer Olympics, Alexandra Walsh easily moved through the preliminaries and the 200-meter individual medley semifinals; she swam a strong race in the finals, putting herself in a position to win, and raced Yui Ohashi down the stretch before ultimately touching for second in her personal best time of 2:08.65 to earn a silver medal; and

WHEREAS, Alexandra Walsh has displayed an unwavering commitment to the pursuit of personal and athletic excellence, and it is wholly fitting that she be recognized by this General Assembly; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor Alexandra Walsh upon winning a silver medal in swimming at the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo, Japan, recognize her determination, exceptional skill, and innate talent, congratulate her on her many significant athletic and personal achievements, and extend to her our heartfelt wishes for every future success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to

the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.