

## House Resolution 834

By: Representatives Smyre of the 135<sup>th</sup>, Randall of the 142<sup>nd</sup>, Abrams of the 89<sup>th</sup>, Hugley of the 136<sup>th</sup>, and Dickerson of the 113<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the Arthritis Foundation and recognizing Ms. April West, 2015 Walk to Cure  
2 Arthritis Adult Honoree; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Arthritis Foundation is the largest and most trusted nonprofit organization  
4 dedicated to addressing the needs and challenges of those living with arthritis, the nation's  
5 leading cause of disability; and

6 WHEREAS, since 1948, the foundation has remained committed to leading groundbreaking  
7 research for better treatments and a cure, fighting for patients' access to affordable and  
8 effective health care, and providing trusted information and resources to the more than 50  
9 million adults and 300,000 children living with the disease; and

10 WHEREAS, it is committed to raising awareness and reducing the unacceptable impact of  
11 this serious and painful disease, which can severely damage joints and rob people of living  
12 life to the fullest; and

13 WHEREAS, the foundation funds life-changing research that has restored mobility in  
14 patients for more than six decades, fights for health care policies that improve the lives of  
15 millions who live with arthritis, and partners with families to provide empowering programs  
16 and information; the Walk to Cure Arthritis is the Arthritis Foundation's nationwide  
17 signature event that unites communities across the country to put an end to arthritis; and

18 WHEREAS, Ms. April West, the 2015 Walk to Cure Arthritis Adult Honoree and a  
19 Savannah native, was diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis in the early 1990s as a 21 year old  
20 college student; is an IT professional with AT&T, a community advocate, and a dedicated  
21 volunteer; and has been living with the disease for more than 13 years; and

22 WHEREAS, the 2015 Walk to Cure Arthritis will be held on May 2, 2015, at Concourse  
23 Parkway in Atlanta, Georgia, with the goal of raising \$260,000 for the entire State of Georgia  
24 and raising awareness of this serious and painful disease.

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
26 the members of this body commend the Arthritis Foundation and recognize Ms. April West,  
27 2015 Walk to Cure Arthritis Adult Honoree.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
29 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to  
30 Ms. April West and the Arthritis Foundation.