A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge the National Inventors Hall of Fame to induct Dr. Patricia Era Bath.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF OHIO (THE SENATE CONCURRING):

  WHEREAS, The National Inventors Hall of Fame recognizes and honors the enduring legacies of exceptional United States patent holders whose inventions transform and improve lives and help create new industries; and

  WHEREAS, With each new class of inductees, the National Inventors Hall of Fame not only applauds their inventions, but also provides opportunities for inductees to engage and inspire the inventors of tomorrow; and

  WHEREAS, Dr. Patricia Era Bath, an ophthalmologist and laser scientist, was an innovative research scientist and advocate for blindness prevention, treatment, and cure, in particular for underserved populations, whose accomplishments include appointment as the first Black resident in
ophthalmology, the creation of a new discipline known as "community ophthalmology," and serving as the first woman chair of ophthalmology in the United States, at Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science and the University of California, Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Bath was also an inventor, with her interests, experience, and research on cataracts leading her to invent the Laserphaco Probe, a device and method that harnesses laser technology to remove cataracts and provides for a less painful and more precise form of cataract treatment, that since its invention has helped to restore or improve vision for millions of patients worldwide; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Bath's invention, the Laserphaco Probe, was patented in 1988, making Dr. Bath the first Black female physician to hold a United States medical patent, with Dr. Bath later holding four additional United States patents as well as international patents from Japan, Canada, and several countries in Europe; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 134th General Assembly, urge the National Inventors Hall of Fame to induct Dr. Patricia Era Bath to honor her numerous contributions, in particular, the Laserphaco Probe, an invention that has improved millions of lives, and to inspire and engage future scientists and inventors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the National Inventors Hall of Fame and news media of Ohio.