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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 767

Offered February 20, 2023

*Commending Meg Medina.*

Patrons—VanValkenburg and Bagby

WHEREAS, Meg Medina of Henrico County, an award-winning, *New York Times* best-selling author who writes picture books for children as well as middle-grade and young adult fiction, was selected as the National Ambassador for Young People's Literature for 2023-2024 by the Library of Congress and Every Child a Reader; and

WHEREAS, Meg Medina began writing at age 40 after the oldest of her three children began attending elementary school; many of her stories are influenced by her Cuban American heritage and her own life experiences; and

WHEREAS, Meg Medina previously received the 2019 John Newbery Medal for her children's book, *Merci Suárez Changes Gears*; her most recent picture book, *Evelyn Del Rey is Moving Away* has received multiple accolades, including the 2021-2022 Charlotte Zolotow Award; and

WHEREAS, Meg Medina also established the program "¡Cuéntame!: Let's talk books" to encourage discussions about books and literacy among families and in classrooms, libraries, and communities; and

WHEREAS, Meg Medina is the eighth person to serve as the National Ambassador for Young People's Literature, and she is the first Latina author to be selected; in this capacity, she will travel the country to engage with young people and promote the joys of reading and the power of storytelling; and

WHEREAS, Meg Medina was inaugurated as the National Ambassador for Young People's Literature by Dr. Carla Hayden, the Librarian of Congress, at a special ceremony on January 24, 2023, at the Library of Congress; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Meg Medina on the occasion of her selection as National Ambassador for Young People's Literature for 2023-2024; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Meg Medina as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for her achievements as an author and contributions to young people throughout the Commonwealth and across the nation.

INTRODUCED

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