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20201070D HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 584

Offered August 31, 2020

Commending Erica and Max Scherzer.

 Patron—Murphy

WHEREAS, Erica and Max Scherzer, passionate animal-rescue advocates in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area, have generously supported the Humane Rescue Alliance for several years; and

WHEREAS, the Humane Rescue Alliance (HRA), an organization formed by the merger of the Washington Humane Society and the Animal Rescue League in 2016, oversees all animal protection programs and services in the nation's capital, attending to tens of thousands of animals annually; and

WHEREAS, Erica Scherzer has been involved with the HRA since 2016 and, today, is a valued member of its board of directors, contributing greatly to the organization's efforts to raise awareness and find loving homes for its rescue animals; and

WHEREAS, Erica's husband, Max Scherzer, the all-star pitcher of the World Series-winning Washington Nationals, has leveraged his platform as a superstar athlete to advance the HRA's cause; in 2017, he was featured in a public service announcement for the HRA that encouraged people to consider rescue animals for adoption; and

WHEREAS, that same year, Max and Erica Scherzer stepped up again by covering the adoption fees for HRA animals over several days, helping the shelter make room for an influx of animals displaced by Hurricane Harvey in Texas; and

WHEREAS, during the 2019 baseball season, Max Scherzer encouraged fans to pledge donations to the HRA for each strikeout he threw, vowing to match all contributions the organization received; the fundraiser brought in tens of thousands of dollars, while raising the HRA's visibility in the community; and

WHEREAS, through their admirable advocacy in support of animals everywhere, Erica and Max Scherzer exemplify the values of compassion, leadership, and integrity that the Commonwealth holds most dear; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Erica and Max Scherzer hereby be commended for their work on behalf of the Humane Rescue Alliance; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Erica and Max Scherzer as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the couple's service and best wishes for their continued success.