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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 782

Offered February 20, 2023

Commending Patton Oswalt.

Patrons—Krizek and Bulova; Senators: Boysko, Ebbin and Surovell

WHEREAS, Patton Oswalt, an actor and comedian who was born in Portsmouth, donated \$250,000 to the Mount Vernon-based nonprofit organization Alice's Kids after an appearance on *Celebrity Jeopardy!*; and

WHEREAS, siblings Ron Fitzsimmons and Laura Fitzsimmons Peters were inspired to create Alice's Kids based on their own experiences of growing up in poverty; they named the organization after their mother, who worked diligently to provide for them and build a happy home life; and

WHEREAS, through a referral network of teachers, counselors, social workers, and others, Alice's Kids fulfills hundreds of requests each year for items or services that will make a difference in a child's life, including prom fees, soccer cleats, hygiene products, uniforms, glasses, and many other items that have helped children participate in their school's activities and fit in among their peers; and

WHEREAS, Alice's Kids initially served young people only in the Mount Vernon area but has expanded to support young people in communities throughout the Commonwealth and in other states; and

WHEREAS, Patton Oswalt, who graduated from Broad Run High School in Ashburn and The College of William & Mary, has previously donated \$5,000 to Alice's Kids and spurred additional donations after posting about the organization on his Twitter feed; and

WHEREAS, during his *Celebrity Jeopardy!* championship round appearance, which aired on February 7, 2023, Patton Oswalt raised additional awareness of Alice's Kids and donated his second-place prize of \$250,000 to the organization in addition to his winnings from previous rounds; and

WHEREAS, Alice's Kids received many additional donations after the *Celebrity Jeopardy!* episode aired, now totaling at least \$329,000, or nearly one-third of its 2023 fundraising goal, thanks to Patton Oswalt's advocacy and generosity; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Patton Oswalt for supporting the vital mission of Alice's Kids; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Patton Oswalt as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his contributions in support of young people in the Commonwealth and around the nation.

INTRODUCED

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