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## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 392

Offered February 21, 2023

*Commending Ryan Alam.*

Patron—Murphy

WHEREAS, Ryan Alam is a Loudoun County teenager who was diagnosed with a type of neurodegeneration with brain iron accumulation called mitochondrial-membrane protein-associated neurodegeneration, an extremely rare condition occurring in less than 100 people around the world; and

WHEREAS, in the face of this challenge, Ryan Alam has devoted himself to helping others, volunteering his time in myriad ways, including through toy and clothes drives, fundraising campaigns and events, and other charitable endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Ryan Alam has supported a local homeless shelter by organizing drives to collect clothing, toys, food, and hygienic products for the individuals and families the shelter serves; and

WHEREAS, while living in Nairobi, Kenya, Ryan Alam regularly volunteered at a local orphanage, providing reading, arts and crafts, physical education, music, and yoga programs for the enjoyment of the children there, as well as clothing, toys, and other items they needed; and

WHEREAS, Ryan Alam and his family showed their appreciation for his teachers at Potomac Falls High School by hosting and funding two coffee carts stocked with breakfast sandwiches, coffee, tea, fruits, and other snacks; and

WHEREAS, Ryan Alam has spearheaded a campaign to raise money to support research to find a cure for his rare neurodegenerative disease, organizing Zumba events, restaurant nights, raffles, private auctions, and more for this important cause; and

WHEREAS, as the face of Children's National Hospital's Race for Every Child Campaign and in other capacities, Ryan Alam has garnered support for various members of the community, including other children with rare disorders and the families impacted by the fire at the Chase Heritage Apartments in Sterling; and

WHEREAS, Ryan Alam's loving, caring, and empathetic nature has brightened countless lives, and his unwavering positivity and willingness to help others is an inspiration to all Virginians; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Ryan Alam hereby be commended for his selfless dedication to serving others; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Ryan Alam as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for his contributions to the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

HR392