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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 342

Offered March 3, 2022

Commending Andolyn T. Medina.

Patron—Hayes

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WHEREAS, Andolyn T. Medina of Chesapeake, an officer in the United States Navy and Miss District of Columbia winner, finished as a top 10 semifinalist in the Miss America pageant on December 16, 2021; and

WHEREAS, as a Miss America semifinalist, Andolyn Medina won a \$12,500 scholarship and was also awarded \$1,000 for being one of the top five fundraisers across the nation, having raised \$12,109 to support another young woman who was pursuing her academic dreams; and

WHEREAS, Andolyn Medina was the first Miss America candidate to be awarded the Jean Bartel Military Awareness Scholarship while competing for Miss America; this scholarship is awarded to a qualified applicant who has demonstrated exemplary service to men and women in the military; and

WHEREAS, the daughter of two United States Navy officers, Andolyn Medina was herself commissioned as an ensign in the United States Navy in 2019; and

WHEREAS, Andolyn is an honor graduate of Hickory High School and earned an advanced degree from the Governor School for the Arts; she subsequently earned a bachelor's degree from Hollins University, graduating in three years, and two master's degrees, including a master's in forensic psychology and a second master's in clinical psychology from George Washington University; and

WHEREAS, Andolyn Medina is certified in Virginia and the District of Columbia as a mental health professional and a licensed psychology associate, and she is pursuing a doctoral degree in clinical psychology from George Washington University; and

WHEREAS, a prolific volunteer, Andolyn Medina has selflessly given nearly 8,000 hours of service throughout Hampton Roads and the world as a classical vocalist, pianist, mentor, and motivational speaker; for 15 years, she has also volunteered at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth to bring Christmas cheer to military dependents who were unable to celebrate the holidays at home; and

WHEREAS, Andolyn Medina has touched countless lives through her social impact initiative, Demand An End: Stop Human Trafficking and Child Exploitation, and she is the founder and coordinator of Operation PEACE (Peer Empowerment and Community Engagement); now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Andolyn T. Medina for finishing in the top 10 of the Miss America pageant in 2021; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Andolyn T. Medina as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for her personal and professional achievements and best wishes for the future.