

2018 -- H 8344

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2018

H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N

**CONGRATULATING PRESIDENT-ELECT IVÁN DUQUE MÁRQUEZ ON BEING
ELECTED THE PRESIDENT OF COLOMBIA**

Introduced By: Representatives Tobon, Mattiello, Shekarchi, Abney, and Barros

Date Introduced: June 20, 2018

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, President-Elect Iván Duque Márquez was born on August 1, 1976, in
2 Bogotá, Colombia, the son of Juliana Márquez Tono and the late Iván Duque Escobar. Mr.
3 Márquez earned a Law degree and a Major in Philosophy and Humanities from Sergio Arboleda
4 University in Bogotá. He also holds an LLM degree in International Economic Law from
5 American University and a Master's degree in Public Policy Management from Georgetown
6 University; and

7 WHEREAS, President-Elect Duque began his distinguished public service career in
8 1999, serving as a consultant for the Andean Development Corporation. He later worked as an
9 Advisor with the Colombian Ministry of Finance and Public Credit, before taking a position with
10 the Inter-American Development Bank from 2001 to 2013 in Washington, D.C., where he served
11 with distinction as a Senior Advisor to the Executive Board for Colombia, Peru and Ecuador. He
12 also held senior positions as an Advisor to the Presidency, and as the Chief of the Division of
13 Culture, Solidarity and Creativity; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Duque returned to Colombia in 2014 and was elected to the Colombian
15 Senate. He was instrumental in getting significant laws passed that improved the health and
16 welfare of the Colombian people. Thanks to his hard work and persuasive arguments, laws were
17 passed that increased maternity leave from 14 to 18 weeks for all parents, including adoptive
18 parents, more funds were provided to aid people attending college, and more funding was
19 provided to greatly increase the number of defibrillators throughout public places in Colombia;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, On December 10, 2017, the Democratic Center Party chose Mr. Márquez to
3 be its candidate for President in the 2018 election. This Sunday Mr. Duque was elected President
4 of Colombia on June 17, 2018, after running a disciplined, focused and centrist campaign in
5 which he promised to crack down on corruption, work tirelessly to increase entrepreneurship and
6 equality in Colombia, and to significantly improve the quality of education and healthcare in
7 Colombia by expanding the number of schools in poor and rural areas, expanding and enhancing
8 children’s nutrition programs in the schools, increasing school days from five hours to eight
9 hours, and offering more professional training to high school students; and

10 WHEREAS, President-Elect Duque is married to María Juliana Ruiz, and is the devoted
11 father of three children, Lucianna, Matias, and Eloisa; now, therefore be it

12 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
13 Providence Plantations hereby congratulates President-Elect Iván Duque Márquez on being
14 elected the President of the Republic of Colombia. We wish him a most successful presidency
15 and the people of Colombia peace and prosperity; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
17 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to President-Elect Iván Duque Márquez.

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