

2021 SPECIAL SESSION II

ENROLLED

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 841

Commending Rappahannock Cellars.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, August 10, 2021

WHEREAS, for 20 years, Rappahannock Cellars, a family-owned winery in Rappahannock County, has created elegant wines enjoyed by people throughout the Commonwealth and the world; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the potential of Virginia wines, John and Marialisa Delmare relocated their family winery from California to the Blue Ridge Mountains and planted their first vineyard in 1998; and

WHEREAS, the Rappahannock Cellars winery became operational in 2000 and has since produced 21 vintages of wine and grown to a sustained production of more than 15,000 cases of wine each year; and

WHEREAS, Rappahannock Cellars has earned awards and accolades from numerous international competitions and received the Virginia Governor's Cup Gold Medal in 2006; and

WHEREAS, Rappahannock Cellars has been an influential leader in the Virginia wine industry; it was the first Virginia winery to offer a monthly wine club, which now serves more than 2,000 households across the country, and it was the first Virginia winery to operate a distillery for production of 100 percent grape spirits; and

WHEREAS, Rappahannock Cellars has had a significant economic impact on the Blue Ridge Mountains, invigorating tourism to the region and providing jobs for hundreds of local residents over the years; and

WHEREAS, Rappahannock Cellars is a true family-owned-and-operated business; John and Marialisa Delmare, along with their 12 children, have been actively involved with every aspect of the winery, from planting to daily operations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Rappahannock Cellars hereby be commended on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the opening of its winery; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Delmare family as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the myriad contributions Rappahannock Cellars has made to the Virginia wine industry.

ENROLLED

HR841ER