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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1087**

Offered February 22, 2017

*Commending The Barns at Hamilton Station Vineyards.*

Patrons—LaRock, Greason, Minchew, Aird, Albo, Anderson, Austin, Bagby, Bell, John J., Bell, Richard P., Bloxom, Bourne, Boysko, Bulova, Byron, Campbell, Carr, Cox, Davis, Dudenhefer, Fariss, Farrell, Filler-Corn, Fowler, Freitas, Garrett, Gilbert, Hayes, Head, Helsel, Heretick, Herring, Hester, Hodges, Holcomb, Hope, Howell, Ingram, Jones, Keam, Kilgore, Knight, Kory, Krizek, Landes, Leftwich, Levine, Lingamfelter, Lopez, Loupassi, Marshall, D.W., Massie, McQuinn, Miller, Miyares, Morris, Mullin, Murphy, O'Bannon, O'Quinn, Peace, Pillion, Plum, Pogge, Poindexter, Price, Rasoul, Robinson, Rush, Sickles, Simon, Stolle, Sullivan, Torian, Toscano, Tyler, Villanueva, Ward, Ware, Watts, Weber, Wilt, Wright and Yost; Senators: Black, Barker, Carrico, Chafin, Chase, Cosgrove, Dance, Deeds, DeSteph, Dunnavant, Ebbin, Edwards, Favola, Hanger, Howell, Lewis, Locke, Lucas, Marsden, Mason, McClellan, McDougale, McPike, Newman, Norment, Obenshain, Peake, Petersen, Reeves, Ruff, Saslaw, Spruill, Stanley, Stuart, Sturtevant, Surovell, Vogel, Wagner and Wexton

Unanimous consent to introduce

WHEREAS, The Barns at Hamilton Station Vineyards, a family-owned winery near the historic Town of Hamilton, won two gold medal awards in the 2017 Virginia Governor's Cup wine competition for its 2014 Meritage and 2014 Cabernet Sauvignon, which also received the Governor's Cup trophy; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Governor's Cup wine competition, hosted annually by the Virginia Wineries Association, showcases the best of the best in Virginia wine and is one of the most stringent competitions in the United States; and

WHEREAS, since its first harvest in 2011, The Barns at Hamilton Station Vineyards has worked with world-renowned winemaker Michael Shaps to use carefully selected Virginia grapes to create wines in the French Bordeaux style; and

WHEREAS, Michael Shaps studied oenology and viticulture in France and has worked and consulted with more than a dozen wineries in Virginia; he produces his own small lots of red and white Burgundies through Maison Shaps in Mersault, France; and

WHEREAS, under Michael Shaps' direction, The Barns at Hamilton Station Vineyards produces white wines that retain their natural acidity and varietal intensity and red wines that are highly extracted and crafted to be worthy of aging; and

WHEREAS, The Barns at Hamilton Station Vineyards features a tasting room in a restored 106-year-old stone and wood bank barn and draws visitors from throughout Virginia, the United States, and the world, and adds to the Commonwealth's stature as a world-class destination for wine lovers; and

WHEREAS, The Barns at Hamilton Station Vineyards has earned more than 100 local and national awards, including five gold medals in the 2016 Virginia Governor's Cup wine competition, the most gold medals awarded to a single winery that year; and

WHEREAS, on February 21, 2017, Governor Terence R. McAuliffe announced that The Barns at Hamilton Station Vineyards' 2014 Cabernet Sauvignon was the overall top-scoring wine of the competition and the winner of the prestigious Governor's Cup; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend The Barns at Hamilton Station Vineyards on receiving two gold medals and the Governor's Cup trophy in the 2017 Virginia Governor's Cup wine competition; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare copies of this resolution for presentation to Andrew Fialdini, owner of The Barns at Hamilton Station Vineyards, and Michael Shaps, winemaker, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the winery's contributions to the Commonwealth's exceptional wine industry.

INTRODUCED

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