

2026 -- H 7711

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LC005051

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

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

**CONGRATULATING THE DIAMOND HILL VINEYARDS ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR
50TH ANNIVERSARY**

Introduced By: Representatives Marszalkowski, Ackerman, Voas, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, McEntee, Kennedy, Edwards, and Bennett
Date Introduced: February 11, 2026

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, In the late 60s, after being stationed in France in the Air Force, Peter and
2 Claire Berntson returned to the Town of Cumberland and bought 34 acres of land on Diamond
3 Hill Road to follow their heart and try their hand at farming and winemaking; and

4 WHEREAS, Diamond Hill Vineyards is now a second-generation, family-run vineyard
5 and winery still owned by the Berntson family. Officially founded in 1976, with the first grape
6 plantings, this year marks the anniversary of five decades of farming, family history, and
7 winemaking; and

8 WHEREAS, Encompassing over 30 acres of scenic vineyards, beautiful gardens and
9 unspoiled woodlands in the Town of Cumberland, Diamond Hill Vineyards began producing
10 Pinot Noir, and now produces Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Sauvignon Blanc, as well as
11 small-batch grape and fruit wines including various blends from New England fruits such as
12 apples, cranberries, peaches and blueberries; and

13 WHEREAS, Diamond Hill Vineyards offers a beautiful day touring the winery,
14 delightful wine and cheese tastings, a stop at its lovely little gift shop, a tasting room set in the
15 charming vineyard house, or just a relaxing afternoon unwinding with a glass of wine simply
16 enjoying the beautiful grounds outside on the lawn, or under the large covered porch in the
17 summer time, or cozy next to the fireplace on those cold winter days; and

18 WHEREAS, What began as a dream fifty years ago, is now a successful, sprawling
19 vineyard that hosts guests year-round, distributes wine to local liquor stores, and is a must stop

1 for families and friends to gather, and for out-of-towners to visit; now, therefore be it
2 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
3 congratulates the Berntson Family on the occasion of their 50th Anniversary of the founding of
4 Diamond Hills Vineyard and, moreover, wishes for its continued success; and be it further
5 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
6 transmit duly certified copy of this resolution to Peter and Claire Berntson and Family.

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