

**No. R-217. House concurrent resolution congratulating Blake Hill Preserves' owners Vicki Allard and Joe Hanglin on being named the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2022 Vermont Small Business Persons of the Year.**

(H.C.R.144)

Offered by: Representatives Bartholomew of Hartland, Burrows of West Windsor, Goldman of Rockingham, and Partridge of Windham

Offered by: Senators Balint, Clarkson, McCormack, Nitka, and White

Whereas, Vicki Allard spent her English summers foraging for fruits to make jam, and Joe Hanglin grew up in Gibraltar with a love of cooking, and in 2005, they purchased an old sheep barn in Grafton as a part-time home, while continuing their jobs in New York City, and

Whereas, their jam production started as a home-based hobby, until a friend snuck a jar into the Grafton Village Store, a first order followed, and the couple established Blake Hill Preserves, and

Whereas, as product demand grew, they transitioned to a full-time operation, creating a 2,000 square foot kitchen in Grafton in 2012, which, in 2016, was replaced with a 6,000 square foot kitchen (now being expanded to 12,000 square feet), and a specialty preserves shop in Windsor that sells its products both locally and nationally, and

Whereas, the business has won numerous food industry awards, and

Whereas, Joe Hanglin is a 2018 graduate of the Small Business Administration (SBA) Vermont 2018 Emerging Leaders class, and the couple developed a successful strategic growth plan, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Blake Hill Preserves' owners Vicki Allard and Joe Hanglin on being named the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2022 Vermont Small Business Persons of the Year, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Vicki Allard and Joe Hanglin.