

Please Support Passage of Senate Bill 112A: The Tonnage Tax Fairness Act

Dear Senators and Representatives,

We strongly support passage of Senate Bill 112A. Now is the time to clarify Oregon's winegrape tonnage tax law to ensure there is a level playing field between Oregon producers and those outside the state. The bill is focused on one critical element: the equitable collection of Oregon's 36 year-old wine grape tonnage tax from all purchasers of Oregon's prized winegrapes.

SB 112A clarifies that out-of-state wineries buying Oregon winegrapes are required to pay half of the \$25/ton winegrape tax that funds the Oregon Wine Board's activities supporting our state's \$5.6 billion wine industry. This mirrors the tax due from every Oregon winery. The remaining \$12.50 is owed by Oregon winegrape growers.

Oregon represents only about 1% of U.S. wine production. The Oregon Wine Board therefore needs every tax dollar possible to promote our award-winning wines and support critical research so our grape growers and wineries can be competitive in a crowded marketplace. Out-of-state producers benefit from the work of the Oregon Wine Board and should be required to contribute their fair share. Otherwise out-of-state wineries are placed at a competitive advantage over Oregon wineries that are required to pay the tax.

According to the most recent annual Oregon Vineyard and Winery report, about 20% of the 2017 harvest was sold out of state. This represents an increase of 60% in just one year. If taxes had been paid on those tons as proposed in SB 112A, it could translate into an estimated \$400,000 collected by the OLCC on behalf of the Oregon Wine Board or about 20% of the total 2017 winegrape tax assessment. That infusion of new money would extend the impact of grape tax funds already collected from Oregon growers and winemakers in support of new scientific research projects, and marketing programming designed to expand market availability and fulfill increasing consumer demand for Oregon wines.

The growth of out-of-state winegrape sales underscores Oregon's exceptional quality reputation, and also highlights the urgent need to clarify this portion of the law.

Please support passage of Senate Bill 112A.

Sincerely,

The Undersigned



Wineries and Vineyards in Support

UMPQUA VALLEY WINEGROWERS	ROGUE VALLEY WINEGROWERS ASSOCIATION	KingEstate Family Owned & Farmed
STOLLER WINE GROUP	Fackson FAMILY WINES	winderlea vineyard and winery
Phelps Creek	AtoZ WINEWORKS	Domaine Serene
Abacela®	ARGYLE	Sokol Blosser Winery
Raptor Ridge	KOOSAH	HROOKS Est. 1998
Coeur de Terre V I N E Y A R D Handcrafted - Organically Farmed - Artisanal Wines	Bethel Heights	L'Ecole
PONZI	Winemakers CLLC	ERATH WINERY
LANGE ESTATE WINERY & VINEYARDS	H A MACHER WINES	CRISTOM



Otis Kenyon Mala Mala Mala	DOUBLEBACK.	LEFT COAST The Williamette Valley Estate
PEPPER BRIDGE WINERY	A Bleening Hill Viewerd & Wear	2 Hawk vineyard & winery
Amavi	Archery Summit	BRICK HOUSE
Delmas	SONALLS	ROCO
	FAIRSING	ELK COVE
H HAYWORTH ESTATE		THE CT
MONTINORE ESTATE		Winter's HILL EXTERNOR IN THE DEMORE HELA
F E A S T	Bradley Viney ands	Brittan Vineyards
J. H. Carriere	Björnson Vineyard	KRISELLE cellars



RoxyAnn	WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS	SHI-BHG-G364 - www.wewinery.com BHB Slagle Creek Rd - Grants Paur, OR 97527
HELIOTERRA	BELLE PENTE Vineyard & Winery	SOUTH STAGE CELLARS
TROPIN PLANSO	IRVINE & ROBERTS VINEYARDS	GOSCHIE FARMS
COROLLARY WINES	Helvetia Winery	
EST. 21089 YOUNGBERGHILL	<u>Celestina Vineyard</u> <u>John Pratt</u>	BRANDBORG
Umpqua Vineyards	Crawford Beck Vineyard	Bradshaw Vineyards
Bill and Elin Miller	David Beck	Jim Bradshaw
<u>Holmes Gap Vineyard</u> <u>Jack LaRue</u>		