

Doug Frost, MS, MW
4510 West 82nd Terrace
Prairie Village, KS 66208

home: 913-385-7376
e-mail: Winedog@att.net
fax: 913-385-7362

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Attention: Connie Burns
Senate Federal & State Affairs Committee
Opposition to SB 379

To the members of the Senate Federal & State Affairs Committee,

As the Senate Federal & State Affairs Committee is hearing SB379 and SB390 on Tuesday, Feb. 21, I wish to send along my written testimony for inclusion. It is my understanding that consideration is being given to the idea that wines labeled as "Kansas Wines" may be bottled for minimal amounts of wine actually made from Kansas grapes.

I strongly protest these actions. The removal of any agriculture content component from the Farm Winery law makes a mockery of the meaning of words on a label, upon which consumers depend for guidance in their purchasing. As a thirty-five year professional in the wine industry, I have seen firsthand the damage done to a state's wine industry and grape growers by such changes in wine labeling laws.

I implore the Committee to consider the consequences of these actions and to protect the integrity of labels on true Kansas wines. In so doing, the Committee will protect the farmers whose hard work has helped created the basis for the birth and growth of a new industry here, as well as lay proper groundwork for wineries and winemakers who seek continued growth for their businesses.

Best Regards,



Doug Frost
The Kansas City Star