



May 24, 2019

Ambassador Robert Lighthizer
U.S. Trade Representative
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative
600 17th St. NW
Washington DC 20006

Dear Ambassador Lighthizer:

As the American members of the Wine Origins Alliance, representing producers and grape growers in five leading wine producing states across the country, we write to oppose tariffs on wine as countermeasures in the context of the U.S.-EU WTO disputes on aircraft subsidies. Indeed, we oppose all tariffs on wine products on a global basis.

The Wine Origins Alliance is composed of 25 organizations from 10 countries spanning North America, Europe, Australia, and Asia. Together, we represent nearly 80,000 wineries and grape growers that have generated more than 900,000 jobs and more than \$8 billion in global wine exports.

Wine is a sustainable product which promotes the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of people and the planet, now and in the future. Wine promotes peace and prosperity given its historical role in bringing nations together in commemorative moments of international understanding.


Of immediate concern, the United States has identified \$21 billion of EU products – including wine and sparkling wine – on which it proposes imposing tariff countermeasures in relation with the WTO dispute on EU subsidies to Airbus (DS316). We understand that the European Union will soon be authorized to impose its own tariff countermeasures on U.S. products in relation with the WTO dispute over U.S. subsidies to Boeing (DS353). It also is expected to target wine.

We strongly urge you to exclude wine products from your WTO tariff countermeasures list. The United States and the European Union are the two leading wine producers in the world, collectively exporting \$28 billion last year. We urge you to work with the EU government to reduce or eliminate wine tariffs, not raise them. Promoting wine exports by removing trade barriers is critical to driving industry growth and creating new industry jobs.

Sincerely,




Anthony Sannino
President
Long Island Wine Council



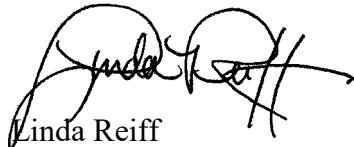
Alison Laslett
CEO
Santa Barbara Vintners



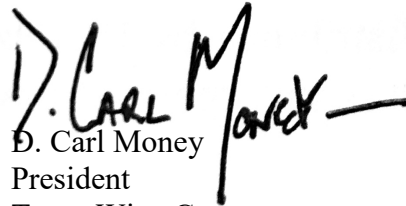
Jim Anderson
Executive Director
Missouri Wine and Grape Board



Michael Haney
Executive Director
Sonoma County Vintners



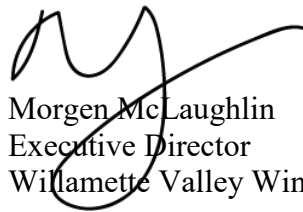
Linda Reiff
President & CEO
Napa Valley Vintners Association



D. Carl Money
President
Texas Wine Growers



Tom Danowski
CEO
Oregon Winegrowers Association



Morgen McLaughlin
Executive Director
Willamette Valley Wineries Association



Joel Peterson
Executive Director
Paso Robles Wine Country Alliance