

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Richard <rmason@kc.rr.com> SB 390

To: pete.brungardt@senate.ks.gov

Sent: Mon, February 20, 2012 6:29:02 PM

Subject: I am in favor of maintaining the 60 percent Kansas Grapes in Wine

Dear Senator Brungardt,

My name is Richard Mason and I have a vineyard in Wyandotte County (Edwardsville, KS). I sell my Norton/Cynthiana grapes and Chambourcin grapes by the tons to Middle Creek winery in Louisburg, Kansas. I am in favor of maintaining the 60 percent Kansas Grapes in Kansas farm wineries.

I believe keeping the wineries to the 60 percent minimum usage of local homegrown grape product allows vineyards like mine to continually produce Kansas grown grapes. Additionally, this generates more tax revenue for the state of Kansas that would not be there otherwise.

If the law changes to allow for more grape product to be purchased out of state, all it is helping is other states produce more grapes and for Kansas to lose revenue from us local Kansas grape growers. Not only do you lose revenue from us grape growers for the sell of our products, but you lose revenue from the equipment and supplies that are purchased from local Kansas businesses needed to maintain our vineyards.

Contact me if you have any further questions.

Thank you for your time and attention to this very important matter.

Sincerely,

Richard Mason
President & CEO
RSMason Enterprises, Inc.