

September 7, 2017

Minister Zhi Shuping
General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine
No. 9, Ma Dian East Road, Haidian District
100088 Beijing
People's Republic of China

Subject: "Broad Wine Industry Support for Wine Place Name Protections in China"

Dear Mr. Zhi Shuping:

The Wine Origins Alliance ("Alliance") respectfully submits this letter in support of the recent joint proposal by the European Union (EU) and the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of the People's Republic of China (AQSIQ) to protect as many as 200 geographical indications (GIs).

The Alliance is an organization representing 23 wine regions from nine countries from North America, Australia and Europe. The winemakers from these regions employ approximately one million people and generate more than \$7 billion in global wine exports. We promote the clear and accurate labeling of a wine's true origin so that consumers can make informed decisions when purchasing and consuming wine.

In the wine industry, the name of the place where the wine comes from is a fundamental tool for consumers to identify the wines of great winegrowing regions. That is why a broad and diverse number of wine regions, including several prominent regions in California, are Alliance members. While we may be competitors in the global marketplace, we all agree that each region is unique and, as such, produces wines impossible to duplicate anywhere else. There is consensus among us that when wine place names are misused on a label, the credibility of the industry is diminished and consumers will be misled.

For these reasons, we strongly support the EU-China agreement on the protection of wine GIs. We appreciate your consideration of our views and welcome any questions that you might have.

Sincerely,

Chief Executive

Barossa Grape & Wine Association

Sergio Zingarelli President

Chianti Classico Wine Consortium

Louis-Fabrice Latour

President

Bureau Interprofessionnel des Vins de

Bourgogne

César Saldaña

General Manager

Consejo Regulador de la Denominación de

Origen Jerez-Xérès-Sherry

Anthony Sannino

Vice President

Long Island Wine Council

Miles Prodan President & CEO British Columbia Wine Institute

> Jean-Marie Barillère Co-Président Comité Champagne

President & CEO

Napa Valley Vintners Association

Maxime Toubart Co-Président

Comité Champagne

Jana McKamey

Government Affairs Director

Oregon Winegrowers Association

Jennifer Porter **Executive Director** Paso Robles Wine Country Alliance

Fernando Salamero Laorden President Consejo Regulador de la Denominación de Origen Calificada Rioja

> R. Madison Murphy II President of the Board Santa Barbara Vintners

Jean Arnold Sessions **Executive Director** Sonoma County Vintners

> Tara Guthrie **Executive Director Texas Wine Growers**

Morgen McLaughlin Executive Director
Willamette Valley Wineries Association