



New York Farm Bureau
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MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

Senate Bill 1443 (Senator Funke)/Assembly Bill 4230 (Assemblyman Magee)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL LAW, IN RELATION TO DELIVERY OR TRANSPORT OF WINE PURSUANT TO A FARM WINERY LICENSE

Date: 2/27/2017

New York Farm Bureau, the state's largest agricultural advocacy organization, respectfully requests your support for this legislation. If enacted, this legislation would permit farm winery employees to deliver and transport wine in their own vehicles.

New York's wine and grape sector has been particularly growth-oriented lately, with the number of wineries in New York now surpassing 400. One of the fastest growing sectors has been in our farm winery category of licenses, which carries additional privileges of sale while assisting the state's grape farmers by requiring 100% usage of New York grown grapes.

Currently, employees of a farm winery are not allowed by law to transport or deliver wine in their personal vehicles unless the farm receives a trucking permit from the SLA. This can create an efficiency issue if an employee may need to transport wine in his/her own vehicle to a tasting event, marketing event, or sales to retail outlets.

This legislation would also reduce costs to the farm winery because the winery would no longer be required to obtain a license or a permit for the employee to transport wine in their personal vehicle. The trucking permit, while not overly onerous requires fingerprinting and a fee, as well as scarce resource of time.

Allowing a farm winery employee to deliver wine in their own vehicle will enable farm wineries will reduce costs, obtain operational flexibility and improve efficiency. New York Farm Bureau respectfully requests your support for this legislation on behalf of our many grape farmers and farm winery owners.