



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Office of the Commissioner



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**S.B. No. 315 (RAISED) ENVIRONMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING FARMER'S MARKET WINE SALES PERMITS AND ESTABLISHING AN OFF-SITE FARM WINERY SALES AND TASTING PERMIT'**

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture supports the intent of S.B. No. 315 (RAISED) ENVIRONMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING FARMER'S MARKET WINE SALES PERMITS AND ESTABLISHING AN OFF-SITE FARM WINERY SALES AND TASTING PERMIT' to expand opportunities for legitimate farm wineries in Connecticut, but has some concerns and urges caution in the implementation of such a proposal.

The farm winery sector is a relatively new component of Connecticut agriculture, and has experienced some significant challenges related to compliance with mandated minimum percentages of Connecticut Grown fruit required in the finished products.

The agency has concerns about the potential to expand opportunities for non-compliant farm wineries at the expense of those working so hard to follow the rules, and about the potential for further confusion among consumers about legitimate farm winery products that could result.

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture suggests enhanced enforcement of existing laws and regulations prior to proceeding with the proposal in S. B. No. 315.