



Connecticut Vineyard and Winery Association

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George Motel- CT Vineyard and Winery Association

Transportation Committee

Testimony in Support of HB 5328 AAC Signage for Wineries on the CT Wine Trail

Good afternoon Representative Guerrero and Senator Maynard and members of the Transportation Committee, my name is George Motel, and my wife and I are the owners of Sunset Meadow Vineyards in Goshen, CT. We started our vineyard about ten years ago and have over 40 acres of vines planted. I am here in my capacity as the President of the CT Vineyard and Winery Association (CVWA) in support of HB 5328 AAC Signage for Wineries on the CT Wine Trail.

This bill seeks to address the limited number of roads CT Wine Trail Signs can be placed on. Currently only limited access highways can be used. Due to the agricultural nature of our businesses, we are not located near many main roads, and are more difficult to find. Wineries often complain of consumers getting lost en route to their establishments. If more signage was allowed, more consumers could enjoy all that CT wineries have to offer. This bill would be of no cost to the State as winery owners pay for the sign, bond and erection of the sign. We urge you to approve this bill and drive further tourism to our establishments.

Thank you for your consideration.