

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 29, 2000

Mr. Richard Mascolo, Chief
Regulations Division
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms
P.O. Box 50221
Washington, DC 20091-0221
Attention: Notice Number 890

Dear Mr. Mascolo:

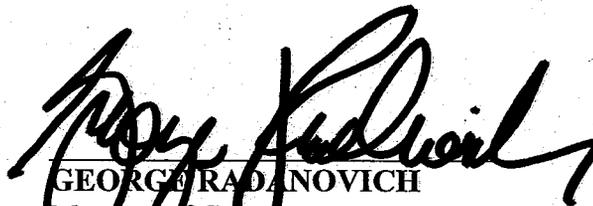
We are writing to commend the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) for undertaking a proposed rulemaking to address the problem of customer confusion between varietal wines and wine specialty products containing ingredients which current labeling rules do not identify to the consumer. We appreciate your moving promptly to deal with this buyer confusion, which is doing considerable damage to America's premium wine industry.

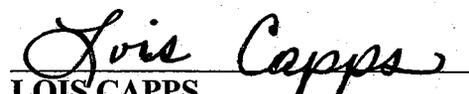
We have reviewed the California Association of Winegrape Growers (CAWG) comment letter on your proposed rule. This letter makes a number of sound recommendations, which, if adopted by ATF, will serve to more directly and effectively focus the labeling rule proposal. In turn, this will serve to better inform the customer about the wines they purchase.

We respectfully request that you consider CAWG's comments. We know it is your goal to develop a rule that is effective, without being overly inclusive, and which will withstand any legal challenge. We believe CAWG's recommendations will assist you in accomplishing this important goal.

Sincerely,


MIKE THOMPSON
Member of Congress


GEORGE RADANOVICH
Member of Congress

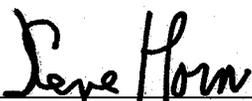

LOIS CAPPS
Member of Congress

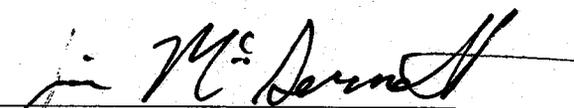

WILLIAM THOMAS
Member of Congress

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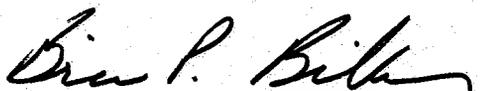

CAL DOOLEY
Member of Congress


RICHARD POMBO
Member of Congress


STEVE HORN
Member of Congress

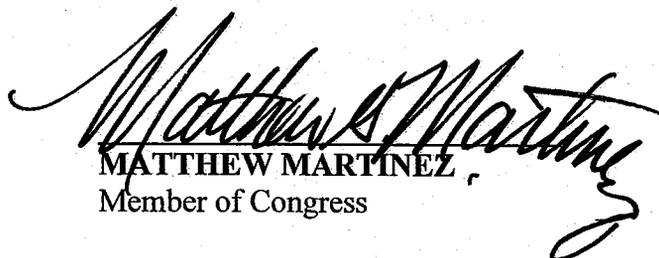

JIM McDERMOTT
Member of Congress

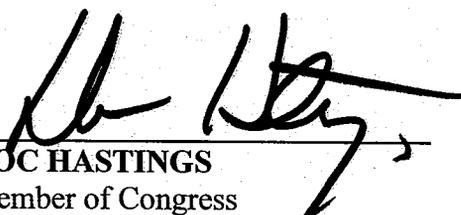

WALLY HERGER
Member of Congress

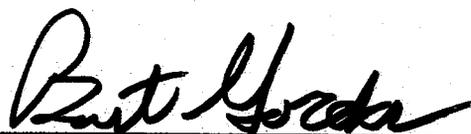

BRIAN BILBRAY
Member of Congress

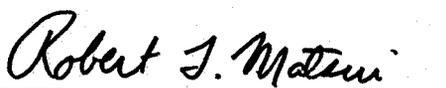

TOM CAMPBELL
Member of Congress


SAM FARR
Member of Congress

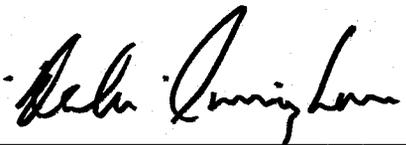

MATTHEW MARTINEZ
Member of Congress


DOC HASTINGS
Member of Congress


BART GORDON
Member of Congress


ROBERT T. MATSUI
Member of Congress

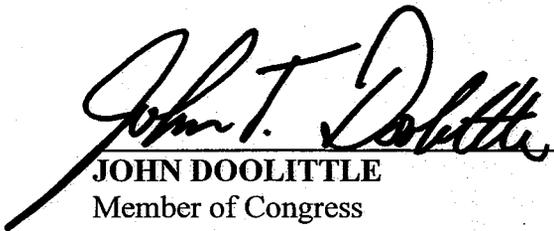
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RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM
Member of Congress



KEN CALVERT
Member of Congress



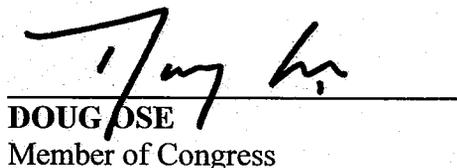
JOHN DOOLITTLE
Member of Congress



ELTON GALLEGLY
Member of Congress



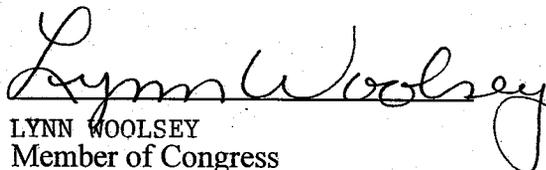
GRACE NAPOLITANO
Member of Congress



DOUG OSE
Member of Congress



PETE STARK
Member of Congress



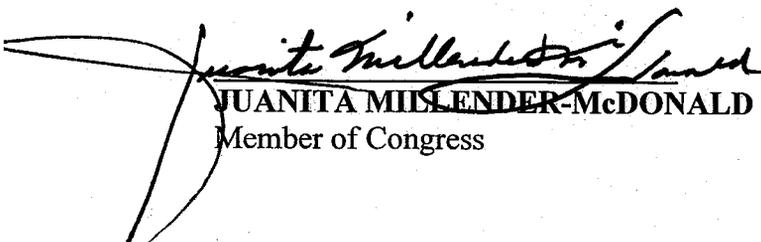
LYNN WOOLSEY
Member of Congress



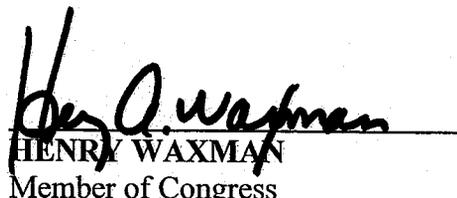
ELLEN TAUSCHER
Member of Congress



TOM LANTOS
Member of Congress



JUANITA MISLENDER-McDONALD
Member of Congress



HENRY WAXMAN
Member of Congress

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Packard". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

RON PACKARD
Member of Congress