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MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the House of Representatives

FROM: Representative Robert F. Matzie *RFM*

DATE: March 16, 2011

SUBJECT: Resolution Designating October 2011 as "Wine, Wineries, and Grape Month"

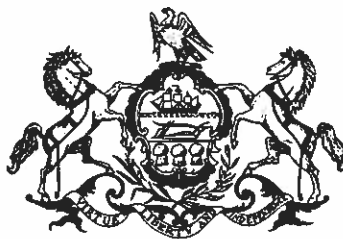
In the near future, I plan to introduce a Resolution designating October 2011 as "Wine, Wineries, and Grape Month" in Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania has 114 licensed wineries where adult patrons can sample and buy a vast assortment of wines made in the Commonwealth, along with many other national brands of wine. With 230 wine grape growers working 14,000 acres of grape farms in the Commonwealth, Pennsylvania is the fourth largest producer of wine grapes in the nation.

According to a study commissioned by the Pennsylvania Winery Association, the production of grapes for wines and juices contributed a total of approximately \$2.35 billion to the state economy in 2007. This figure includes the direction creating of 10,537 jobs and a total direct payroll of \$472 million. Pennsylvania wineries attract 894,000 visitors a year and bring an estimated \$179.6 million in tourism expenditures each year.

As you can see, Pennsylvania wines, wineries and grapes are valuable to the state's economy. Please join me in recognizing the significant and invaluable contributions made by the grape and wine industries to this Commonwealth's history, economy and quality of life.

I urge you to join me in supporting this resolution. If you would like to co-sponsor this resolution, please contact Keontay Hodge at 717-787-4444 or khodge@pahouse.net.



House of Representatives COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA HARRISBURG

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