Federal law may impact Nevada wine drinkers



By Steve Timko, Reno Gazette-Journal

Wine lovers fear a new law being reviewed in Congress will end their convenient access to high-end wineries.

Industry groups pushing the law say the fear is unfounded. The goal isn't to restrict shipping but to end a string of costly lawsuits they feel is chewing away at alcohol regulation, the groups say.

Wineries have sold directly to consumers for decades, but access was limited based on state law. In 2005, wineries won a major decision when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that if a state allows direct shipment of wine inside its borders it must also allow direct shipment to customers outside state borders. The number of states allowing direct shipment is now 38.

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