

Submission  
No 48

## INQUIRY INTO WINE GRAPE MARKET AND PRICES

**Name:** Name suppressed

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Partially Confidential

The Director - Standing Committee on State Development

We are grape growers in a wine industry which is causing much concern. Firstly, the wineries believe they have the power to dictate to farmers on what to grow, how to grow the grapes, withhold our payments for up to 9 months, and not give us the grape prices until we have delivered our grapes to the winery. If farmers try to negotiate prices with the wineries, we are told to take it or find somewhere else to deliver your grapes. With the ever increasing cost to produce grapes, using chemicals, water, fertilizer, we are also required to convert to drip irrigation which is very expensive, how are farmers expected to keep up with payments to the banks and to live. What we need is the Wine Grapes Marketing Board or a government body to give us farmers a leg to stand on. We need \$350. at least of minimum prices and payments within 30 days. Every business I buy from has account payment in 30 days. Why can't we have the same arrangement. Every employee in Australia has more rights and security in their job, I think it's time we farmers have some rights too.

Thank you for time