

September 29, 2026

The Honorable Vince Fong
U.S. House of Representatives
243 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20003

Dear Representative Fong:

On behalf of the Business Council for Sustainable Energy, I am writing to express support for your proposed legislation addressing the treatment of American Viticultural Areas in state and local permitting and land use decisions.

The proposed legislation would amend the Federal Alcohol Administration Act to clarify that the location of land within a federally designated American Viticultural Area may not, by itself, be treated by a state or local government as a factor affecting permitting, zoning, other land use decisions, or land valuation. The discussion draft also makes clear that state and local governments would retain authority to regulate permitting, land use, zoning, and taxation based on other criteria unrelated to an American Viticultural Area designation.

BCSE represents a broad portfolio of energy efficiency, natural gas, renewable energy, energy storage, sustainable transportation, and emerging energy technology companies and trade associations. Across these sectors, clear, predictable, and efficient permitting processes are important to investment in energy infrastructure and bringing projects to market in a timely manner.

We appreciate your leadership and attention to the interaction between federal designations and state and local permitting processes, and the opportunity to review this legislative proposal. BCSE looks forward to continuing to engage with your office on policies affecting permitting and the deployment of energy infrastructure.

Sincerely,



Lisa Jacobson
President
Business Council for Sustainable Energy