

MIKE THOMPSON

5TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SECURITY

PERMANENT SELECT

COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

RANKING MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON TERRORISM,  
HUMAN INTELLIGENCE, ANALYSIS AND  
COUNTERINTELLIGENCE



CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, DC 20515

May 21, 2014

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WEB: <http://mikethompson.house.gov>

Mr. Steve Crocker

Chair

Internet Corporation for Assigning Names and Numbers

12025 Waterfront Drive

Suite 300

Los Angeles, CA

90094

Dear Mr. Crocker,

The pending applications for the new .wine and .vin generic top level domain names (gTLDs) have the potential to impact the wine industry in my district and across the world. I appreciate the recent decision to delay for 60 days granting these new gTLDs, allowing interested parties additional time to resolve outstanding differences.

Wine growing regions in California, particularly the world-famous Napa Valley, and around the world, are concerned that parties with no connection to the region will misappropriate their name. This would harm their reputations, and force costly efforts to protect their name from any party that registers a .wine or .vin website containing their name.

I hope that the applicants for .wine and .vin are able to reach agreement with interested parties on Public Interest Commitments (PIC) Specifications that adequately protect Geographic Indications (GIs) for wine growing regions in my district and across the world from cybersquatting and other activities that could have unnecessary negative repercussions on the wine industry. However, if interested parties are unable to reach an agreement over the next several months, I urge you to withhold granting the .wine and .vin gTLDs to any applicant.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Should you have any questions regarding this request or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact myself or Jesse Haladay in my office at (202) 225-3311.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mike Thompson".

MIKE THOMPSON

Member of Congress

Cc: The Hon. Lawrence E. Strickling, Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)

Ms. Suzanne Radell, Senior Telecommunication Policy Advisor, NTIA