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MEDIA RELEASE

Australian Competition & Consumer Commission

The Winemakers' Federation of Australia (WFA) has welcomed the release of the Australian Competition & Consumer Commission's (ACCC) report on competition and fair trading issues in the horticulture and viticulture industries.

WFA Acting Chief Executive, Tony Battaglione, said "WFA looks forward to working with the ACCC on ways to improve competition and profitability in the industry. We continue to encourage all winemakers to adopt the voluntary Wine Industry Code of Conduct which we believe is serving the industry well. We believe the voluntary code is the most appropriate model, as a mandatory code would increase red tape and costs to the sector without providing any benefits to grape growers."

WFA applauds the ACCC's intention to increase its engagement with the industry, particularly to assist with education and compliance regarding the introduction of the unfair contract terms law later this year. WFA will continue to work closely with the ACCC's Agriculture Unit on the issues raised in the report.

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