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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

STEVE ISRAEL

Third District, New York

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July 14, 2014

Mr. Steve Crocker
Chair, Internet Corp. for Assigning Names and Numbers
12025 Waterfront Dr. #300
Los Angeles, CA 90094

Dear Mr. Crocker:

I am writing regarding pending applications for new .vin and .wine "generic top level domain names" (gTLDs) and am pleased there was a 60-day delay in granting the new domain names, as there are very important issues still to resolve. I want to ensure that Geographic Indications are appropriately protected through this process.

This issue is of particular interest to wineries on Long Island. The region has already devoted a lot of its resources to prevent abuse of the LongIslandWineCountry.com domain name. Although prominent wine regions around the world are concerned about the release of the new domain names, small regions like Long Island will be particularly affected because, unlike their colleagues in Napa or Champagne, they simply do not have the means to engage in costly legal battles to defend their geographic identities globally. As a result, there is a considerable risk that regional brands, especially those of smaller wine growing regions, will be diminished and consumers around the world will be misled.

It's crucial for wine-growing regions on Long Island and elsewhere that they are protected from cybersquatting and similar activities. I understand there are a variety of legitimate uses for domain names and gTLDs and I hope that a mutual agreement among applicants for .wine and .vin and other interested parties can be reached. Should such an agreement not be reached, I urge you to withhold granting these gTLDs to anyone until such a time.

I appreciate your attention to this matter and if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Colleen Nguyen in my office at 202-225-3335 or colleen.nguyen@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steve Israel".

Steve Israel
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling, Administrator, NTIA
Suzanne Radell, Senior Telecommunication Policy Advisor, NTIA



*Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515*

*Anna G. Eshoo
Eighteenth District
California*

June 25, 2014

Mr. Fadi Chehadé, President and CEO
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers
12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300
Los Angeles, CA 90094-2536

Dear Mr. Chehadé,

As the 50th ICANN Meeting continues in London this week, I'm writing to express my deep concerns about the proposed rollout of the .wine and .vin generic top level domain names (gTLDs).

Since ICANN first announced its plans to launch new gTLDs, I've expressed concerns regarding the economic impact, the potential for consumer confusion, and the increased cybersquatting that could occur without proper checks and balances. While I do not oppose the outright launch of new gTLDs, each application must be carefully scrutinized and take into account the concerns of impacted stakeholders.

Specifically, it's my understanding that the .wine and .vin gTLDs have been met with fierce opposition from the wine industry, both here in the U.S. and around the world. Given these concerns, coupled with the complexities of reaching agreement on Geographic Indications (GIs), I urge you to advocate for the .wine and .vin gTLDs to be permanently withdrawn from consideration.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and your high consideration of this important request, and I look forward to your timely response.

Sincerely, *and gratefully,*

Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress



*Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515*

*Anna G. Eshoo
Eighteenth District
California*

June 25, 2014

The Honorable Larry Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information Administration
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling,

As the 50th ICANN Meeting continues in London this week, I'm writing to express my deep concerns about the proposed rollout of the .wine and .vin generic top level domain names (gTLDs).

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Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress