

## **Red Horizon Vineyard**

**M.A & J.M Bail**

21-5-2015

**Committee Secretary**

**Senate Standing Committees on Rural & Regional Affairs & Transport.**

To Whom It May Concern,

I feel compelled to write this letter in some hope that your Committee can move forward and help Wine Grape Growers out of the gloomy position we find ourselves in at present.

My Husband and I have been producing Wine Grapes and delivering to Wineries for some 18 years now. In the past we were able to lead a happy lifestyle working on our land and reaping the benefits of our hard work. In 2009 we delivered our Grapes to our Winery In Irymple, only to find out two weeks later that in fact the Winery was Bankrupt. Hence we received not one penny for our Harvest. So life since then has been very stressful on our whole family!

With current prices per tonne that we are receiving from our Winery we can no longer simply just pay our Water/Land Rates & Electricity when they come due. So instead it's a constant battle trying to 'drip feed' all these costs so as to stop debt collections being issued upon us.

To add to our despair, The Commonwealth Bank (our lender) is at present deciding if they will take us into Debt mediation. So we will walk away with five fifths of nothing as our farm value is down because of the Vine Yard. Not only will we lose our home, but sadly probably our Marriage ( of 30 years ) as the stress is too hard to bare. Our daughter will also lose her horse's, which are the centre of her life.

We have been Tax Payers for 35 years, we do not want to end up on The Dole and no where to live.

**So I implore you, please help us !!**

Jocelyn Bail

Desperate Grape Grower.