



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

**CLOSED**

Michael O. Leavitt  
Governor

1625 South 900 West  
PO Box 30408  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84130-0408  
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July 31, 2002

J. Crump  
P.O. Box 3004  
Park City, Utah 84060

Dear Mr. Crump:

Receipt of your letter of July 25 is acknowledged. The governor, having received a copy of the same letter, has asked me to respond.

The information you got from the winery that Utah is the only state not allowing out-of-state shipments of wine is inaccurate. I am enclosing photocopies of information from the 2002 National Alcohol Beverage Association Survey Book identifying those states that allow shipments of wine to residents in other states.

Of the 50 states, only 21 allow out-of-state shipments of wine to their residents. Of the 21 states, 13 will allow out-of-state wine shipments only if the shipper is licensed to do so or if there is a reciprocal agreement between the two states allowing shipments. Those states are identified on the survey by check marks.

Laws prohibiting out-of-state shipments of any alcoholic beverages to residents of this state are passed by the Legislature. Attempts to change this prohibition have not been successful. There are recorded incidents of minors purchasing alcoholic beverages from out-of-state manufacturers and retailers. The prohibition has more to do with keeping alcohol out of the hands of minors than any religious reasons. This is also the reason the other 29 states do not allow out-of-state shipments.

Actually, the winery did you a favor by informing you of the Utah prohibition. Some out-of-state wineries and retailers will take your order and your money and ship the wine only to have the wine confiscated when it reaches Utah. All carriers who transport alcoholic beverages into Utah are aware of our law and automatically deliver illegal shipments directly to our department, not to the addressee. In these cases, the citizen is not only out the price of purchase and shipment, but never receive the wine.

I would suggest you contact your elected House or Senate member to discuss this issue or if you would like to discuss it with me, please call. I appreciate hearing from you and hope this explains why out-of-state shipments are prohibited.

Sincerely,

  
Kenneth F. Wynn, Director

Enclosure