

News Release Deputy Premier John Rau

Attorney General
Minister for Planning
Minister for Business Services and Consumers



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McLaren Vale and Barossa protected from today

South Australia's McLaren Vale and Barossa Valley regions are finally protected from urban sprawl with historic legislation coming into effect today.

Deputy Premier and Minister for Planning John Rau said that the *Character Preservation (McLaren Vale) Act 2012* and the *Character Preservation (Barossa Valley) Act 2012* are laws that all South Australians can be proud of.

"It gives me great pleasure to say that landmark legislation that protects our valuable Barossa Valley and McLaren Vale regions is in place as of today," Mr Rau said.

"The State Government knows the importance of these regions for South Australia, particularly through tourism.

"We could not allow them to fall victim to the urban sprawl of a growing city.

"Working with local wine and food producers we were able to create laws to protect the unique character of the Barossa and McLaren Vale and ensure that land continues to be used for its historic purpose – that is producing globally recognised gourmet food and wine.

"Barossa Valley producers such as Jan Angus, Marg Lehman and Maggie Beer have all been strong advocates for their local region which now can not be sub-divided for housing.

"Local Member for Mawson Leon Bignell has also worked hard within his community and fought to get these laws into place.

"No Cabinet or Minister's decision can change this, only the Parliament will have the power to amend these laws," Mr Rau said.

"This is an achievement that we can all celebrate – we are assured that future generations will be able to enjoy the offerings of two of the most picturesque regions in Australia."

Legendary McLaren Vale wine producer d'Arry Osborn of d'Arenberg wines said that it is comforting to know that his beloved McLaren Vale region will remain synonymous with producing some of the world's best drops.

"I have fought for the protection of the McLaren Vale region for several decades," Mr Osborn said.

"Now, we have peace of mind that this important region will serve its purpose for making internationally renowned wines for generations to come – as my family has done for over a century."