



Department of the Treasury

Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau



Press Release

For Immediate Release  
Contact: Art Resnick (202)927-8062

August 26, 2005  
FY-05-35

## **TTB ANNOUNCES NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING AND TEMPORARY RULE IMPLEMENTING CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR IMPORTED WINES**

Washington, D.C. – The Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) published a notice of proposed rulemaking in the Federal Register on August 24, 2005, soliciting comments from interested parties on the implementation of new wine certification requirements. The text of the regulations can be found in the temporary rule also published in the Federal Register on August 24, 2005.

The temporary rule implements section 2002 of the Miscellaneous Trade and Technical Corrections Act of 2004, Pub. L. 108-429, 118 Stat. 2434 (“the Act”), signed by President Bush on December 3, 2004. Section 2002 of the Act revised section 5382(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (IRC), 26 U.S.C. 5382(a), which sets forth standards regarding what constitutes proper cellar treatment of natural wine.

The revision of section 5382(a) involved the following two principal substantive changes: (1) the addition of a new paragraph (1)(B) to provide that, in the case of wine produced and imported subject to an international agreement or treaty, proper cellar treatment of natural wine includes those practices and procedures acceptable to the United States under the agreement or treaty; and (2) the addition of a paragraph (3) setting forth a new certification requirement regarding production practices and procedures for imported natural wine produced after December 31, 2004.

Written comments must be received on or before October 24, 2005.

You may send comments to any of the following addresses—

- Chief, Regulations and Procedures Division, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Attn: Notice No. 51, P.O. Box 14412, Washington, DC 20044-4412.
- 202-927-8525 (facsimile).
- [nprm@ttb.gov](mailto:nprm@ttb.gov) (e-mail).
- <http://www.ttb.gov/alcohol/rules/index.htm>. An online comment form is posted with this notice on our Web site.
- <http://www.regulations.gov>. Federal e-rulemaking portal; follow instructions for submitting comments.

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