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NEW JERSEY GENERAL ASSEMBLY
CLARE M. FARRAGHER COMMITTEES
ASSEMBLYWOMAN, 12TH DISTRICT ASSEMBLY BUDGET COMMITTEE

MONMOUTH-MERCER COUNTY
400 WEST MAIN STREET August 6, 2003
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Chief, Regulations and Procedures Division
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Attention: Notice 4

Dear Sir or Madam:

As an Assemblywoman representing the 12 Legislative District in New Jersey, I am writing to express my support for the U. S. Treasury's Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau proposed rulemaking for flavored malt beverages. (200 1R-136P)

I believe the TTB's action is an important clarification of federal alcohol beverage categories established to maintain an orderly US market place. Further, I believe the debate surrounding the proposed standard poses important issues for the stability of the retail licensing system and the overall market place.

With my support for the proposed 0.5% standard, I am joining The Beer Institute, the National Beer Wholesalers Association, and major small brewer associations, among many others, because this standard is the most efficient means to address recent concerns by both federal and state officials. If adopted, the standard will maintain an orderly marketplace, meet consumer expectations for consistent products, and help sustain the long-term development of the product category. In addition, these reformulated products will be consistent with state tax, license, and distribution laws allowing wholesalers and retailers to continue to distribute, sell and market flavored malt beverages as they do today.

Thank you for this opportunity for me to offer my support for the current TTB proposed rulemaking for flavored malt beverages.

Very truly yours, -

CLARE M. Farragher
Assemblywoman
CMF:mm

