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WILLIE L. HINES Alderrnan Economic Development Committee 17th ALIJERMANIC DISTRICT Housing Authority Board MEMBER: City Hall. Room 205 Finance & Personn~ Committee 200 East Wells Street Steering & Rules Committee Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202-3570 Community Development Committee (414) 286-2221

August 27, 2003

Chief Regulations and Procedures Division Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau P.O. Box 50221 Washington, D.C. 20091-0221

Attn: Notice 4

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing to express my support for the U.S. Treasury's Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau's proposed rulemaking for flavored malt beverages (2001R-136P).

In clarifying that any product sold, marketed and taxed as a malt beverage product must be made according to traditional brewing methods and processes, the proposed 0.5% standard ensures the stability of the retail licensing system and the overall marketplace. This consistent ftandard will allow wholesalers and retailers to continue to distribute, sell, and market flavored malt beverages as they do today. The flavored malt beverage products that look and taste the same will be available to wholesalers and retailers in all states no interruption and no discernable taste differences for consumers.

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

Sincerely,

WILLIE L. HINES, JR Alderman, 17TH District City of Milwaukee