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Laurie Knight
425 8th Street, NW #545
Washington, DC 20004

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

Attn: TTB Notice No.4

To Whom It May Concern:

As an employee of the beer industry, I am writing in support of the proposed rule published on March 24, 2003, in the Federal Register by the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) regarding the definition of flavored malt beverage (FMB) products.

The public expects the TTB to remain mindful of the unique characteristics of the product it is regulating and the effect of its decision on the consumer. The 0.5% standard will ensure the integrity of beer.

Categorizing beer with distilled spirits runs contrary to the important distinctions between two products with varying alcohol quantities and could impact established state and federal regulatory and taxation policies. To allow the lines to be blurred during the debate to define FMB products will invite other licensed beverage producers to attempt to categorize future products as beer products as well.

Sincerely,

Laurie Knight

