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I write to express my support for the 0.5% standard on flavored malt beverages. For a host of reasons, ranging from taxation to pure and simple public awareness, the integrity of the fermentation process of malt beverages must be preserved.

Without a federal standard, distinguishing malt beverages from distilled spirits will become impossible with each passing year. It would be like mandating that no professional sports team have a distinguishing name no more Redskins or Steelers or Eagles -- and that all of those teams simply be called football teams.

Having been employed years ago by the Virginia ABC Department, I am aware of the Department's endorsement of the 0.5% standard and I encourage you to adopt the proposed regulation.

Thanks you for your time and interest.

Jodi Roth Richmond, Virginia