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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

TWENTY-EIGHTH DISTRICT

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

RICHMOND

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT. WILLIAM J. HOWELL RULES (CHAIRMAN) FALMOUTH. VIRGINIA 22405 SPEAKER 106 CARTER STREET

August 18, 2003

Mr. William Foster

Chief Regulations and Procedures Division

Al cohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau P.O. Box 50221 Washington, DC 20091-0221

Attn: Notice No. 4 Dear Mr. Foster:

As Speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates, I want to express my support for the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau's proposed "0.5% by-volume standard on flavored malt beverages (FMB)."

The proposed standard just makes good sense and reinforces Virginia's three-tier system that is based in part on clear distinctions between categories of alcohol beverages. I concur with the Virginia ABC Department's letter endorsing the proposed standard and encourage you to adopt the proposed regulation.

Sincerely,

William J. Howell

WJH/kr

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