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'TTB Notice No. 4'From: Lewin, Andy [Andy.Lewin@mail.house.gov]  
Sent: Tuesday, October 21, 2003 11:15 AM  
To: 'nprm@ttb.gov'  
Subject: 'TTB Notice No. 4'

name=Rep. Max Sandlin name=U.S. House of Representatives  
Address1=324 Cannon House Office Building Address2=  
City=Washington State=DC Zip Code=20515 Comments=I would like to  
take this opportunity to comment in support of the Alcohol and  
Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau's [TTB] proposed standard for  
flavored malt beverages, published in the Federal Register on  
March 24, 2003. As you may know, flavored malt beverages have  
grown in popularity over the past few years and, though most of  
the alcohol in these beverages is derived from distilled  
spirits, have benefited greatly from their current tax treatment  
as "malt beverages." The proposed rule would permit brewers and  
importers of flavored malt beverages to continue to market such  
beverages with prominent distilled spirits brand names.  
Flavored malt beverages that derive most of their alcohol  
content from distilled spirits, however, would simply be subject  
to the same regulations and tax rates that apply to other  
distilled spirits.

I believe that the proposed 0.5% by volume rule will  
help to ensure the integrity of the malt beverage category, and  
will continue to appropriately define beer as a product made  
through the brewing process. In addition to

ensuring product integrity, this rule will also enhance  
oversight and regulatory efforts of state regulators and state  
legislators, who have expressed concerns regarding the current  
treatment of flavored malt beverages and requested that the TTB  
clarify their status.

Thank you for your consideration.