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Country Store
Bernalillo, NM .87004-6149

May 15,2003

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

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: TTB Notice Number Four

I am writing to you regarding the new rules proposed by the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) regarding Notice No.4.

I am deeply concerned that new burdensome regulations and steep taxes for flavored malt beverages will have a significantly negative impact on America's small retailers. Flavored malt beverages attract regular customers to small retailers and frequently, those customers make additional purchases while they are with us. Approving TTB Notice No. 4 would essentially remove these customers from small retailers because the product will not be in demand due to the sky-high prices.

Surely, a compromise can be met between the TTB and flavored malt beverage industry. Such a compromise should take into account the small retailers who sell flavored malt beverages to the public. I respectfully urge you to work towards such a compromise. Thank you for your attention to this very important issue.

I would appreciate your thoughts on this issue.

Rosanna Montooya