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May 16, 2003

Ritsuko Kuroki
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RE: TTB NOTICE NUMBER FOUR

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

To Whom It May Concern:

I am sure you are receiving a large response regarding the TTB Notice No.4. Business owners everywhere are concerned about the negative impact the rules change would have on their overall profits. The notice would deprive us of a loyal customer base who buy flavored malt beverages. Frankly, most of us cannot afford to lose anymore business. The ATF/TTB extensively studied whether or not sales of flavored malt beverages posed any threat to federal excise tax receipts. They ruled that absolutely no threat was found. Why then would the TTB want to implement regulations that would virtually guarantee a loss in excise tax receipts by eliminating sales of this product altogether? The new regulations would not encourage economic growth. They would put an entire industry out of business. Please do everything you can to show the TTB that they are making a big mistake. Please make certain that these proposed rules do not become policy.

Sincerely Yours,

Ritsuko Kuroki