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May 16,2003

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

RE: TTB Notice No.4

Dear Sir/Madam:

Taxes and regulations keep being added to the retailer's financial burdens. Generally this is done under the guise of solving deficit problems for government budgets. After all of these years, haven't our government officials gotten it through their heads that America's excessive taxes and business regulations represent our biggest obstacle to economic recovery? Apparently not, because the TTB is now proposing rules changes concerning flavored malt beverages that would only make that obstacle bigger.

The entire marketing, production, and distribution of flavored malt beverages have been controlled by a set of regulations for over 30 years. These rules have successfully and fairly served the needs of the government, the consumer and the retailer. There is absolutely no proven need for a change in these rules. Even your own agencies researches proved flavored malt beverage sales do NOT have a negative affect on excise tax revenue.

If the TTB fails to listen to reason and enacts these rules changes, the implications for consumers and small retailers across the nation will be ruinous! That is why it is so imperative that the rules changes be rescinded before irreparable damage is done.

Sincerely Yours,

Forrest. Blayney

PS Enough is enough!!! 5/16/03