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August 8, 2003

Mr. William Foster Chief, Regulations and Procedures Division Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau 650 Massachusetts Avenue NW Room 5000 Washington, DC 20226

Dear Mr. Foster:

As the Chairman of the New Jersey General Assembly's Law and Public Safety Committee, which deals with matters involving alcoholic beverages, I write to you in support of the proposed Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau's proposed rule concerning flavored malt beverages (2001R-136P).

I believe this rule will be important in clarifying federal alcoholic beverage categories and will help to maintain an orderly marketplace. Without a nationwide standard for the classification of flavored malt beverages the confusion that currently exists will continue.

Very truly yours,

Assemblyman Peter J. Barnes, Jr.

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