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THE FLORIDA SENATE COMMITTEES: Regulated Industries, Chair Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 Appropriations Appropriations - Subcommittee on Education Banking and Insurance Health, Aging, and Long-Term Care Judrciary Rules and Calendar

SENATOR ALEX DIAZ de la PORTILLA President Pro Tempore 36th District

August 12, 2003

Chief, Regulations and Procedures Division Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau P.O. Box 50221 Washington, D.C. 20091-0221

Attn: Notice 4

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my strong support for the pending U.S. Treasury's Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau proposed rule for flavored malt beverages (2001R-136P).

In clarifying that any product sold, marketed and taxed as a malt beverage product must be made according to traditional brewing methods and processes, the proposed 0.5 % standard will ensure the alcoholic beverage retail licensing system and the overall marketplace. This consistent standard will allow wholesalers and retailers to continue to distribute, sell and market flavored malt beverages as they do today. The flavored malt beverage products that look and taste the same will be available to wholesalers and retailers in all states with no interruption and no discemable taste differences for consumers.

Thank you for the opportunity for me to offer my support for the current TTB proposed rulemaking for flavored malt beverages,

Regards,

Alex Diaz de la Portilla Senator District 36

REPLY TO 1555 SW 8th Street, Miami, Florida 33144-4132 (305) 643-7200 404 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street. Tallahassee, Flonda 32399-1100 (850) 487 5109

Senate's Website www.flsenate.gov JAMES E. "JIM" KING, JR. ALEX DIAZ DE LA PORTILLA President President Pro Tempore