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Ashley Selph  
1226 North Carolina Ave, NE  
Washington, DC 20002

August 14, 2003

Attn: TTB Notice No. 4  
Chief, Regulations and Procedures Division  
Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau  
PO Box 50221  
Washington, D.C. 20091-0221

Dear Sir or Madam:

As an employee of the beer industry, I support the proposed rule issued in March 2003 by the Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) that outlines the alcohol content requirements in order for flavored malt beverages (FMB) to be classified as beer. My support is based on the proposal that for an FMB to be classified as beer, its alcohol content from distilled alcohol cannot exceed 0.5%.

Equating beer and beverages that derive a majority of their alcohol content from distilled spirits could weaken the important distinctions between beer and products with higher alcohol content. These distinctions impact state and federal policies regarding the regulation and taxation of beer and other alcohol beverages.

If traditional distinctions disappear, there is a possibility that other products containing alcohol will attempt to categorize themselves as beer products. This is an act to which I am entirely opposed and could be detrimental to the beer industry.

Sincerely,

Ashley Selph