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September 5, 2003

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

To Whom It May Concern:

Re Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau Notice No. 4

I am writing to let you know that I strongly support the efforts of the TTB to properly classify new forms of flavored beverages and the proposed standard requiring flavored malt beverages to contain no more than 0.5% alcohol derived from distillation.

The TTB's 2002 analysis indicates that many flavored malt beverages from larger suppliers are no longer being made in the traditional brewing process. Rather, they derive most of their alcohol content from distilled alcohol in the flavors.

I believe the TTB's proposed standard will ensure product integrity and preserve longstanding distinctions imposed on beer, wine, and spirits. It will also provide a uniform and consistent classification system on which the states, manufacturers, wholesalers, and retailers can rely.

I encourage your careful review and support of the proposed "0.5% flavored malt beverage standard." Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Peter C. Knudson
Assistant Majority Whip ,