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October21, 2003 'CALIFORNIA GROCERS ASSOCIATION.

ATTN: TTB Notice No.4 wwwcagrocers corn

CALIFORNIA GROCERS ASSOCIATION www.cagrocers.com President Peter J. Larkin

Chief, Regulations and Procedures Division Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau P.O. Box 50221 Washington, D.C. 20091-0221 (202) 927-8525 Fax nprm@ttb.treas.gov EMAIL Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing to express the California Grocers Association view that any standard adopted by the TTB regarding Flavored Malt Beverages be uniform and national in scope. Without a uniform standard, market access to certain products may be disparate in areas where different standards would deviate from your federal rule-making process.

Many grocery retailers that operate in California also operate in other states. Having a uniform standard would lend itself to a more efficient, predictable system from point of manufacture to retail. A patchwork of laws and regulations would only add to the confusion of these products that already are some of the most regulated in the country.

Without advocating any particular standard under your review, the California Grocers Association would like to offer this insight as you go about your deliberations on this important issue.

President & CEO California Grocers Association

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