

0047359

From: Kieran Marion [kieranmarion@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 21, 2003 2:44 PM
To: nprm@ttb.gov
Subject: Reference TTB Notice No. 4

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing to express my support for the TTB'S proposed rulemaking for flavored malt beverages (FMB) which will preserve the integrity of beer. I believe the TTB's action is an important clarification that ensures that products sold as FMBs will indeed be made as malt beverages, according to traditional brewing methods and processes.

If your rule is adopted, consumers will still be able to enjoy FMB products, and wholesalers and retailers to will continue to be able to distribute, sell and market flavoFMBs as they do today. However, absent your new standard, brewers, retailers, and wholesalers will face a potential for a patchwork of individual state laws and regulations where the same product may ultimately be sold as a "beer" in one state and as "hard liquor" in another...in fact, several officials in my state have already suggested this as a possibility.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer my support for your proposed FMB rule preserving the unique differences and integrity of beer.

Sincerely,
Kieran P. Marion
Lansing, MI

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