

0040344

Mike Leavell  
Lebanon, TN 37087-3403

May 16, 2003

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

Dear Sir/Madam:

RE: TTB Notice Number Four

Retailers need your help on an important issue. For the sake of consumers and the businesses that support them with the flavored malt beverages they prefer, the regulations proposed in TTB Notice No. 4 should not become national policy. I hope you will agree after you read my letter.

The good news is, I don't think the fundamental misunderstanding between TTB and the flavored malt beverage industry has gone so far that it cannot be corrected if both sides are willing to compromise. The future of the FMB industry depends on it. Please encourage all sides to seek a fair and equitable solution.

I'm sure that your active opposition to the proposed rules change would help keep small retailers going, save thousands of jobs and millions of dollars in excise taxes for the federal government.

Please do everything you can to see that these new rules do not become national policy. It would be devastating for retailers everywhere.

Sincerely,

Mike Leavell

MDL Enterprises

