

0040354
Al's Liquor Store
Roberto Alvarado
Laredo, TX 78041-3787

May 16, 2003

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

RE: TTB Notice Number Four

To Whom It May Concern:

As a businessman, I am appalled that our federal regulators could even think of imposing rules changes as contained in TTB Notice No. 4. After reading the information in this notice, it is apparent to me that the new regulations proposed are both anti-consumer and anti-business. If you enforce these unnecessary rules changes you would be negating your desire to protect the excise tax receipts. These rules changes would deprive consumers of a product they want and irreparably damage a successful business that provides that product.

Careful review of TTB Notice 4 clearly demonstrates that these proposed rules changes contradict earlier findings by the ATF/TTB that there is no excise tax revenue problem involved with the sale of flavored malt beverages. However, the proposed changes WOULD create a serious excise tax revenue problem. Someone in the department has failed to carefully analyze these new regulations and the over all effect will be devastating to the entire nation if they are not rescinded immediately.

Please prevent this giant step backwards for regulatory policy in the United States. Retailers and consumers are already bending under the weight of excessive taxes and regulations. Additional ones will only break us.

Sincerely,

