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City of Milwaukee
Office of the City Clerk

200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202
Certified Copy of Resolution

FILE NO: 030711

Resolution expressing the City of Milwaukee's support for the United States Treasury's Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau's proposed rulemaking for flavored malt beverages (2001 R-1 36P).

Whereas, The City of Milwaukee has long enjoyed a reputation as the "Beer Capital of the World" and "Brew City"; and

Whereas, From the 19th Century onward, thousands of City residents have derived their livelihoods from the beer industry - a tradition that continues not only in major brewers but also with dozens of micro-breweries and brewpubs; and

Whereas, Ever since "malt beverage" was built into the Internal Revenue Code in 1935, beer has deservedly enjoyed a unique place, distinct from distilled spirits, in the realm of state and federal taxation and regulation; and

Whereas, Since the late 1990s, so-called "spirit-branded" beverages have become increasingly popular; and

Whereas, These are beverages that derive their alcohol content not from the fermentation process, but from the later addition of distilled spirits; and

Whereas, Because of their relatively low alcohol content by volume, these beverages have avoided the usual and customary regulation typically applied to distilled spirits; and

Whereas, The growing popularity of "spirit-branded" beverages has threatened to obscure the distinction between distilled spirits and malt beverages, a distinction that has served law-makers, regulators and the general public for generations; and

Whereas, The United States Treasury's Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau has now proposed a new standard for the composition of flavored malt beverages; and

Whereas, This simple, comprehensible standard permits the addition of flavorings and other materials containing alcohol to malt beverage products only if the alcohol from such materials constitutes less than 0.5% by volume of the finished product; and

Whereas, This standard is reasonable and would serve to protect the important distinction between malt beverages and distilled spirits; now, therefore, be it
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Resolved, By the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee, that the Common Council expresses its strong support for the United States Treasury's Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau's proposed rulemaking for flavored malt beverages (2001R-136P); and, be it

Further Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the United State Treasury's Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau.

I Ronald D. Leonhardt, City Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a(n) Resolution passed by the COMMON COUNCIL of the City of Milwaukee, Wisconsin on September 23, 2003.

September 26, 2003

Ronald D. Leonhardt Date Certified
City Clerk

