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From: Mike Bates [MB@timmonsandco.com] Sent: Tuesday, October 21, 2003 4:46 PM

To: nprm@ttb.treas.gov Subject: Notice No. 4

Attn: Notice No. 4

Chief, Regulations and Procedures Division Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau

P.O. Box 50221

Washington, D.C. 20091-0221

Dear Chief, Regulations and Procedures Division:

I am writing in support of the proposed 0.5 percent standard for flavored malt beverages.

The proposed standard is the best way to maintain clear distinctions between beer and liquor and it is the best way to preserve the flavored malt beverage category.

Thank you.

Michael Bates 1320 Argyll Drive Arnold, Maryland 21012