

Six Forks Grocery

Patty Swidzinski
Raleigh, NC 27614-9637

May 16, 2003

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

Dear Alcohol Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau:

RE: TTB Notice No.4

Please note my sincere opposition to the TTB's proposed rule changes, for the flavored malt beverage industry. I am convinced, as a retailer myself, that these rules would significantly harm the industry, my business and my customers if approved.

Particularly at a time when President Bush and Congress are talking about stimulating the economy and putting people back to work, this proposed rules change would depress our business by eliminating flavored malt beverages or taxing them beyond affordability. My customers would revolt, stop buying the product and I lose business.

The TTB says it wants to safeguard excise tax revenue and the flavored malt beverage retailers want to prevent our market from being destroyed. Surely there is a compromise solution that could serve both these priorities? I hope you can help them reach some sort of agreement. Please do everything possible to resist this rules change and work out a reasonable compromise.

We appreciate your service and your help on this issue.
Regards,

Patty Swidzinski