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Cathy Renfroe

May 10, 2003

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

RE: TTB Notice No.4

Dear Sir/Madam:

The current climate of today's economy is shaky at best. It is growing extremely difficult just to maintain a slim profit margin in order to keep my businesses doors open. That is why it is disheartening to see our own government pushing for the rules changes outlined in TTB Notice No.4. If these changes come to fruition, they would hurt both business and consumers. The price increase of these products would become cost prohibitive to my customer base and that would cut deeply into my bottom line. I don't see how anyone would benefit by this unwarranted interference with the marketplace?

For well over 30 years now, the retailers and the FTA, not to mention the consumers, have faired quite well by the regulations already in place for flavored malt beverages. Why, then would anyone want to tamper with a proven good thing? There is no need to add to the regulatory requirements this industry is already meeting. The new requirements will NOT add to the Federal coffers. Please don't make a decision that will harm small businesses, consumers, and the government over the long haul.

On behalf of small business owners, I urge you to support the people who buy and sell flavored malt beverages and prevent what would be a disastrous change in policy for this industry.

Thank you for you time and attention to this most serious matter.

Warm Regards,

Cathy Renfroe

7-Eleven Food Store
Fredericksburg, VA .22401-5616