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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

RICHMOND

HARRY J. PARRISH

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

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FINANCE (CHAIRMAN)

MANASSAS VIRGINIA 20110-4327 COMMERCE AND LABOR

RULES

FIFTIETH DISTRICT

August 21, 2003

Mr. William Foster, Chief
Regulations and Procedures Division
Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau
P.O. Box 50221
Washington, DC 20091-0221

RE: Notice No. 4, Flavored Malt Beverages and Related Proposals
68 Federal Register 14292, March 24, 2003

Dear Mr. Foster:

As Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Virginia House of Delegates, with oversight responsibility for tax policy in Virginia, I want to express my support for the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau's proposed "0.5% by-volume standard on flavored malt beverages."

The proposed rule reinforces consistency in the treatment of beer versus other alcohol beverages, and maintains Virginia's three-tier system which is based in part upon clear distinctions between categories of alcohol beverages.

I understand that Virginia's Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control has endorsed the proposed standard; I also offer my encouragement for adoption of the proposed regulation.

Sincerely,

Harry J. Parrish
50th House District

DISTRICT: (703) 367-0505 • FAX: (703) 368-1476 • RICHMOND: (804) 698-1050 • EMAIL: DEL.PARRISH@EROLS.COM