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Florida House of Representatives
Representative Prieguez
District 113
Reply to: Committees:
304 SW 12th Avenue
Miami, FL 33130 Business Regulation (Chair)
(305) 643-7336 Health Care
Health Services
402 South Monroe Street Commerce and Local Affairs Appropriations
300 House Office Building Appropriations
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300
(850) 488-4202

August 22, 2003

Chief, Regulations and Procedures Division
Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau
P.O. Box 50221
Washington, D. C. 20091-0221

Attn: Notice 4

Dear Sir or Madam:

As the Chair of the Business Regulation Committee, I am writing to express my support for the U.S. Treasury's Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau proposed rulemaking for flavored malt beverages (2001 R-136P).

In clarifying that any product sold, marketed and taxed as a malt beverage product must be made according to traditional brewing methods and processes, the proposed 0.5% standard ensures the stability of the retail licensing system and the overall marketplace. This consistent standard will allow wholesalers and retailers to contribute to distribute, sell and market flavored malt beverages as they do today. The flavored malt beverage products that look and taste the same will be available to wholesalers and retailers in all states with no interruption and no discernable taste differences for consumers.

Thank you for the opportunity for me to offer my support for the current TTB proposed rulemaking for flavored malt beverages.

Sincerely,

Manuel Prieguez
State Representative, District 113