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October 6, 2003

Chief, Regulations and Procedures Division  
and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau  
R E S T A U R A N T  
A S S O C I A T I O N P.O.Box50221  
M E T R O P O L I T A N Washington, DC 20091-0221  
W A S H I N G T O N

Dear Sir or Madam:  
1200 17th Street, NW The Restaurant Association Metropolitan Washington (RAMW) represents  
Suite 110

over 500 Restaurants in Washington, DC, the City of Alexandria, Arlington,  
Washington, DC 20036 Fairfax, Prince William and Loudoun counties. As the Executive Director of  
Phone: RAMW, I am writing to express support for the proposed rule issued by the  
(202) 331-5990 Tax and Trade Bureau regarding the alcohol content of Flavored Malt  
Beverages (FMBs).

Fax:  
(202) 659-8701 The proposed 0.5% standard for FMBs is consistent with the historical  
interpretation by Federal regulatory authorities of what constitutes beer and  
E-Mail: other malt beverages. These historical standards take into consideration the  
info@ramw.org ancient brewing process for beer that has resulted in the unique regulation and

Web Site: taxation of beer in contrast to other alcohol beverages.  
www.ramw.org The importance of this proposed rule gives states guidance as to  
classifying these products. They have followed Federal policy in decisions related to  
licensing, distribution and taxation. This is important to our members because  
it will help prevent disruption in the market that could cause confusion and  
extra regulatory compliance costs.

NATIONAL  
RESTAURANT  
ASSOCIATION The Restaurant Association Metropolitan Washington expresses our support  
for the 0.5% standard for FMBs and recommends its final adoption.

Sincerely,

Lynne Breaux  
Executive Director  
Restaurant Association Metropolitan Washington

RESPECT U PROTECT U PROMOTE U REPRESENT