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May 15, 2003

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

RE: TTB Notice No. 4

Dear Alcohol Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau:

The alterations outlined in TTB Notice No. 4 concerning the flavored malt beverage industry should not become official policy. They are in opposition to the best interests of consumers and business. Our economy cannot afford to lose any more business.

The TTB has not done its job in researching the effects that the rules change would have on our economy as a whole. If the new rules go into effect, flavored malt beverages would basically be eliminated off of retail shelves altogether. Imagine how much of an impact it would have to put an entire industry out of business. Surely this is not the goal of the TTB.

Retailers, consumers and working class taxpayers everywhere need your opposition to the proposed rules change. It is hard enough for us to make ends meet during our current recession. Please do everything possible to ensure that these new rules do not become national policy.

Sincerely Yours,

Ivan Lane