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Loaf and Jug
Ed Cardenas
Raton, NM 87740-2202

May 17, 2003

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

RE: TTB Notice Number Four

To Whom It May Concern:

I hope you will think carefully about the negative effects the proposed rules change in TTB Notice No. 4 would have on businesses like mine.

If these rules are implemented retailers would be deprived of the opportunity to sell flavored malt beverages or else they would become too expensive for our customers to buy. This is not the way our government should be responding to a rocky economy. Small businesses are already weighted down with too many taxes and costly regulations. We should be getting rid of these impediments to economic recovery. The last thing we need is more of them.

Let's bring the talents of the TTB and the flavored malt beverage industry together and work out a compromise solution that will not crush the market for these beverages. Please do everything you can to see that these new rules do not become national policy.

Sincerely,

Ed Cardenas