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STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA ALCOHOL BEVERAGE CONTROL ADMINISTRATION Charleston. West Virginia 25304-2900

BOB WISE THOMAS A. KEELEY BRIAN M. KASTISK GOVERNOR COMMISS!ONER SECRETARY OF TAX & REVENUE

April 10, 2003

Chief, Regulations and Procedures Division Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau P.O. Box 50221 Washington, DC 20091-0221 Attn: Notice No.4

Dear Chief:

This letter is to express The West Virginia Alcohol Beverage Control Administrations (WVABCA) total agreement with the proposed regulation concerning flavored malt beverages.

As a regulatory agency, this office had many questions and concerns pertaining to the introduction of these flavored malt based products. Ultimately, we took the view that the BATF had approved these items as malt based products and should be viewed as such by our agency.

The fact that the Federal Government is reviewing this issue and possibly defining the products in such a way that guidelines and perimeters will be set is more than acceptable to this agency.

If you should need any assistance concerning this issue, please feel free to contact our Beer Division.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Keeley Commissioner

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