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Lee's Quick Stop

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:

I am writing to you with concern that all potential implications of TTB Notice No. 4 have not been reviewed. If approved, tax revenue on flavored malt beverages will surely increase. However, people who buy flavored malt beverages and the businesses that sells these products are the targets; not the beneficiaries of the rules changes proposed in TTB Notice No. 4. An increase in taxes should not be the only goal of these proposed regulations.

Something is fundamentally wrong when big government proposes regulations that would hurt little people who are already struggling. The proposed rules change would do exactly that for small retailers who depend on sales of flavored malt beverages. It would price products like Mike's Hard Lemonade and Zima to a level where consumers won't purchase them. This will lead to a decrease in the retailer's sales, which will harm their business.

The U.S. economy needs stimulation and momentum. It doesn't need the added regulatory burden TTB Notice No.4 would create. Your help is urgently needed to see that this proposed rule does not become national policy.

I respectfully ask that you work towards a mutually beneficial compromise to this issue. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Barbara Leho

Barbara Lebo
Saint Stephen, SC .29479-0700