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October 21. 2003

Chief, Regulations and Procedures Division  
Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau  
P.O. Box 50221  
Washington, DC 20091-0221

Via Facsimile - to Fax # 1-202-927-8525

Dear Sir or Madam:

I want to express my support for the U.S. Treasury's Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau proposed rule-making for flavored malt beverages (2001 R-1 36P).

This proposed regulation will clarify that products sold, marketed and taxed as a malt beverage product must be made according to traditional brewing methods and processes. The proposed 0.5% standard will ensure the stability of the retail licensing system in the overall marketplace. A consistent standard will allow wholesalers and retailers to continue to distribute, sell and market flavored malt beverages as they do today.

This proposed regulation will bring about uniformity and prevent each state from having to deal with this issue on a piece-meal basis.

Thank you for considering these comments, and please contact me should you have any questions.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,

HARRY F. CATO  
Chairman

HFC:dfln