



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
RICHMOND

WARD L. ARMSTRONG  
POST OFFICE BOX 1431  
MARTINSVILLE, VIRGINIA 24114-1431

September 13, 2005

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:  
COURTS OF JUSTICE  
GENERAL LAWS  
COUNTIES, CITIES AND TOWNS

TENTH DISTRICT

Mr. William H. Foster  
Chief, Regulations and Procedures Division  
Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau  
Attn: Notice No. 41  
P.O. Box 14412  
Washington, DC 20044-4412

Dear Mr. Foster:

As a member of the Virginia House of Delegates representing the City of Martinsville, home to employees of Miller Brewing Company's Eden Brewery, I understand there is a proposal being advanced by the distilled spirits industry to "equalize" all types of alcohol beverages by defining alcohol content based on "standard serving." As you consider possible changes in federal alcohol beverage labeling and advertising regulations, I urge you to reject such a proposal.

There is no "standard" method of measurement used in pouring distilled spirits, there is no "standard" alcohol composition between varieties and brands and there is no "standard" mixed beverage recipe. How can the distilled spirits industry provide "standard serving" information on their labels?

Thank you for considering support for current federal policy using the percent alcohol by volume as the best method to describe alcohol content on alcoholic beverage labels.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ward L. Armstrong".

Ward L. Armstrong

WLA/asm