

0040059

IRhonda Johnson

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 Sir/Madam:

The regulation changes you are considering in regard to flavored malt beverages would be a slap in the face to retailers all across the country. It is hard enough during our current economic climate to balance the books and come out just a little ahead each month. These changes would have a significant negative impact on my business either by eliminating this product category altogether or taxing it to the point where no one could afford it.

Up until now, the TTB and the flavored malt beverage industry have had a set of checks and balances that created a successful business relationship. Surely, the fundamental misunderstanding between the two has not gone so far that a compromise cannot be reached. The future of our industry depends on it.

It would be irresponsible of our government to pass a set of regulations that would obliterate an entire industry. You can help to set a conscientious standard by seeing that these new rules do not come to pass. Support a compromise that would not destroy the flavored malt beverage market.

Warm Regards,

RhondaJohnson

Triton
Cedartown. GA .30125-3308