

0040071
Vermont Liquors
Gerald O'Meara
Louisville, KY 402 I I -2901
May 8, 2003

Chief
Regulations and Procedures Division
Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau
Washington, D.C. 20091-0221

To Whom It May. Concern:

RE: TTB Notice Number Four

As a retailer, I have watched as tax after tax on products such as flavored malt beverages has lowered my profit margin to the point of nonexistence. Now, the TTB wants to change the rules regarding FMBs and raise prices even more. I cannot afford this type of policy!

As someone who relies heavily upon the sales of flavored malt liquors and the additional revenue generated when consumers leave with other products as well, I can only see doom and gloom for the country if additional regulations are brought into play. If consumers cannot afford to buy a product, then businesses lose sales. Loss of sales means a loss of profit. Loss of profit means businesses have to close and the federal government can't collect additional taxes. EVERYONE loses!

For all of the above reasons, it is evident that TTB Notice No.4 is a regulatory disaster in the making. Please oppose these punitive changes and avert this disaster to our entire economy. Do not help the TTB to destroy the flavored malt beverage market. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gerald O'Meara