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NEW JERSEY SENATE

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PAIN MANAGEMENT  
POLICY ADVISORY BOARD

Spetember 12, 2003

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

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing today, as a member of the New Jersey State Legislature, to express my support for the U.S. Treasury's Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau proposed rulemaking for flavored malt beverages. (200 1R-136P).

I believe the TTB 's action is an important clarification of federal alcohol beverage categories established to maintain an orderly U.S. marketplace. Further, I believe the debate surrounding the proposed standard poses important issues for the stability of the retail licensing system and the overall marketplace.

With my support for the proposed 0.5% standard, I am joining the Beer Institute, the National Beer Wholesalers, and major small business associations, among many others, because this standard is the most efficient means to address recent concerns by both federal and state officials. If adopted, the standards will maintain an orderly marketplace, meet consumer expectations for consistent products, and help sustain the long-term development of the product category. In addition, these reformulated products will be consistent with state tax, license and distribution laws allowing wholesalers and retailers to continue to distribute, sell and market flavored malt beverages as they do today.

I endorse the current TTB proposed rulemaking for flavored malt beverages. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Senator Gerald Cardinale

SGC:cnd