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The Manitowoc County Tavern League
UNITED WE STAND

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September 12, 2003

Dear Sir:

The Manitowoc County Tavern League supports the proposed rule recently passed by the Tax and Trade Bureau.
(2001R-136P)

We believe the TTB's action is an important clarification of federal alcohol beverage categories that will help to establish an orderly marketplace.

With our support for the proposed 0.5 % standard, we are joining The Beer Institute, the National Beer Wholesalers Association and major small brewer associations because this standard is the most efficient way to address recent concerns by both Federal and State officials.

Without a national standard rooted in existing laws, all sellers will face a potential for a patchwork of individual state laws and regulations where the same product may ultimately be sold as a beer one state and as a distilled spirit in another. If these distinctions disappear, it will only be a matter of time before other producers of alcohol beverages attempt to categorize themselves as beer products.

Once again, The Manitowoc County Tavern League encourages the TTB to give final approval to the proposed 0.5% standard on Fermented Malt Beverages.

Sincerely,

Tim Tomchek
MCTL President

Wayne Machut
MCTL Secretary