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STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

October 16, 2003

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Division of Alcoholic
Beverages and Tobacco

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Mr. William Foster
Chief, Regulations and Procedures Division
Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Trade Bureau
Post Office Box 50221
Washington, DC 20091-0221

Re: TTB Proposed Rulemaking for Flavored Malt Beverages

Dear Mr. Foster:

This letter is submitted by the Florida Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco in response to the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking regarding a standard for flavored malt beverages and related proposals, 68 Federal Register 14292, March 24, 2003.

The Florida Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco is the agency responsible for regulation of the manufacture, distribution, and sale of alcoholic beverages for the State of Florida. The Division's responsibilities include the approval of products and labels as well as the collection of appropriate taxes.

The Florida Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco supports the 0.5% alcohol by volume standard proposed by TTB. This proposed standard appears to represent a positive step toward providing consumer information and avoiding confusion. We therefore urge TTB to adopt the proposed standards.

Sincerely,

Jack Tuter, Director
Division of Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco