



Steve Driehaus
Minority Whip, 31st House District

Committees: Ethics and Elections, Insurance, Public Utilities & Energy, Ways and Means
Commissions: Power Siting Board, Clean Ohio Council

August 3, 2005

Mr. John J. Manfreda, Administrator
Alcohol & Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau
ATTN: Notice No. 41
P.O. Box 14412
Washington, DC 20044-4412

Dear Mr. Manfreda:

We are all consumers. We depend on the marketplace to provide us with basic needs and if we're lucky the luxuries of life. Competition in the market place and product information are two important factors in deciding how to spend our well earned incomes. The recent surge in health conscious eating has prompted food, soft drink, over-the-counter drugs and even dietary supplements to provide consumers with basic consumer information on the label. Alcohol beverages (with some exceptions) are the only major class of consumable goods that do not provide this type of information on the label.

Current federal alcohol beverage label regulations do not allow most beer, wine and distilled spirits companies to provide information about their products so that consumers can make informed choices about what to drink and how much to drink. I urge the Alcohol & Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau to instate regulations that not only permit, but require the listing of such information as serving size, servings per container, calories, fat, carbohydrates and most importantly the amount of alcohol per serving.

As a legislator, I understand the process of changing regulations can be an extensive feat. With that fact in mind, I encourage you to allow voluntary label publication of this information until the proper steps can be taken to make this labeling mandatory.

Please feel free to contact my office if I can be of any help in this matter.

Sincerely,

STEVE DRIEHAUS
State Representative
31^S House District

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