



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
HOUSE OF DELEGATES
RICHMOND

ROBERT H. BRINK
POST OFFICE BOX 7668
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22207-0668
FORTY-EIGHTH DISTRICT

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:
PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS
COURTS OF JUSTICE
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

September 2, 2005

Mr. William H. Foster
Chief, Regulation and Procedures Division
Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau
ATTN: Notice No.41
P.O. Box 14412
Washington, D.C. 20044-4412

Dear Mr. Foster:

I write to urge you to support the current federal policy of using the percent alcohol by volume, or proof, as the only way to describe alcohol content.

I understand that consideration is being given to allow makers of distilled spirits to apply alcohol content labeling based on "standard serving". I do not believe that there is a "standard serving" of hard liquor. Hard liquor drinks vary dramatically in alcohol content based on the brand used, the recipe and the individual pouring.

The Commonwealth of Virginia has a long-standing policy of differentiating between distilled spirits and beer and wine. Any effort to include "standard serving" information on labels of hard liquor would distort those differences and consumer understanding of how much alcohol is actually contained in a variety of mixed beverages.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions

Very sincerely,

A stylized, handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert H. Brink".

Robert H. Brink