

# SENATE OF VIRGINIA



WM. ROSCOE REYNOLDS

20-, SENATORIAL DISTRICT  
ALL OF CARROLL, FLOYD, HENRY AND PATRICK COUNTIES;  
ALL OF THE CITIES OF GALAX AND MARTINSVILLE;  
AND PART OF GRAYSON AND WYTHE COUNTIES  
POST OFFICE BOX 404  
MARTINSVILLE, VIRGINIA 24114-0404  
EMAIL: ROSCOE@DIGDAT.COM

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:  
AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
COURTS OF JUSTICE  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS

August 26, 2005

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

Dear Mr. Foster:

As a member of the Senate of Virginia representing the City of Martinsville, home to employees of Miller Brewing Company's Eden Brewery and a member of the Senate Courts of Justice Committee, which oversees policy development and penalties for violations of alcohol laws in Virginia, I urge you to support the long-standing federal policy of using the percent alcohol by volume, or proof, as the only appropriate way to describe alcohol content.

I am aware of efforts to include "standard serving" information of the amount of pure alcohol on labels or advertising. 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 will distort those differences and consumer understanding of how much alcohol is actually contained in a variety of size and strength mixed beverages.

There is no "standard serving" of hard liquor. It comes in many strengths and mixtures and hard liquor drinks can vary dramatically in alcohol content based on the brand used, the recipe and the individual pouring.

Virginians deserve meaningful labeling. In that regard, I hope the TTB will maintain percent alcohol by volume as the standard.

Sincerely,

*kh<sup>g</sup>* pr,52,-v-...

Wm. Roscoe Reynolds

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