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Pak-A-Bag II Texaco
Camden, AR .71701-5001

RE: TTB NOTICE NUMBER FOUR
May 13, 2003

Chief
Regulations and Procedures Division
Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau
Washington, D.C. 20091-0221

To Whom It May Concern:

There is something scary about an agency of the federal government proposing rules that guarantee financial hardship for small retailers, many of whom are struggling to survive in the present economic climate. That is why I am vehemently opposed to the proposed rules changes that the TTB has recommended in Notice number 4!

As consumers and retailers are painfully aware, our economy is already carrying far too much in the way of taxes and regulatory requirements. To add one more government regulation or tax to our backs will virtually break us. Government policy should be aimed at reducing these barriers to economic growth. We certainly don't need more of them. And we definitely cannot withstand many more blows to our wallets or to our profit margins.

After careful study, the ATF/TTB concluded that the sale of flavored malt beverages do not threaten federal excise tax revenues. However, imposing new regulations on these beverages would surely cut into excise tax collections by completely eliminating the market for these products. It would be fiscally irresponsible to make these types of changes. Don't you agree?

It is for all of the above-mentioned reasons that I am writing to ask your support in rejecting any changes to the rules governing flavored malt beverages. Please protect the people who are the very financial backbone of our country, the retailers. Thank you.

Regards,

Mary Bass