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From: MICHAEL BRYANT [dunbrew@gte.net]
Sent: Tuesday, October 21, 2003 4:55 PM
To: nprm@ttb.gov
Subject: Fw: Support of TTB Notice #4

10/21/03

Chief, Regulations and Procedures Division
Tax and Trade Bureau
PO Box 50221
Washington, D.C. 20031-0221

RE: TTB Notice #4

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Florida Brewers Guild, a professional guild of small Florida brewery owners/operators, supports the proposed standard of composition for Flavored Malt Beverages ("FMB's"), as set forth by the Tax and Trade Bureau ("TTB") in TTB Notice No. 4 of March 2003. This proposal is essential to the beer manufacturers and customers as it clearly delineates the difference between beer and other alcohol beverages, requiring that the alcohol content in FMB's derived from distilled alcohol not exceed 0.5% in order to be classified as "beer."

We think alcohol in beer should be a product of the beer fermentation process. Fermentable products of all types should be allowed in beer, but the addition of distilled alcohol from outside sources is not what the consumer expects in a beer, so the allowable amount should be as low as possible.

Sincerely,

Florida Brewers Guild

Michael N. Bryant
Pres.