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California Restaurant Association
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September 8, 2003

Attn: TTB Notice No. 4
Chief Regulations and Procedures Division
Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau
P.O. Box 50221
Washington, D.C. 20091-0221

Dear Sir or Madam::

The California Restaurant Association represents approximately 20,000 restaurants in the State of California. In addition to California, many of the Association's members operate locations throughout the nation. For this reason, the California Restaurant Association supports a Federal standard regarding the alcohol content of Flavored Malt Beverages.

While states have traditionally had independent regulatory power on how to classify alcoholic products, they have followed Federal policy in their decisions related to taxation, licensing and distribution of alcohol. It is our hope that once again Federal leadership will be followed at the state level and work to maintain order in the marketplace. Thus, a Federal standard will benefit restaurants because it will allow them to serve their customer consistently at all locations.

Sincerely,

Stephenie Borlaug
Legislative Director, Health & Food Safety

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