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From: Seeskin, Barry A. [Barry.Seeskin@anheuser-busch.com]

Sent: Tuesday, October 21, 2003 10:56 AM

To: nprm@ttb.treas.gov

Subject: Uphold the TTB rule on FMB's

October 21, 2003

Chief, Regulations and Procedures Division Tax and Trade Bureau PO Box 50221 Washington, D.C. 20031-0221 Dear Sir or Madam: I am writing to express my support for 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. I think it is critical that the Federal government take the lead on this issue and add coherence to the longstanding definitions of "beer" and "malt beverages" as differentiated from other alcohol products. If the proposed rule is upheld, it will surely influence state policies and help to avoid confusing and conflicting standards from unfolding in the states. This would be crucial to maintaining clear and distinct definitions that will guarantee consistent tax, licensing and distribution policies for alcoholic beverages. It would be counterproductive and nonsensical to add confusion by allowing products that are incontestably liquor products to begin being classified as "beer" or "malt beverages".

In summary, I want my voice to be recorded on this issue, that the alcohol content in FMB's derived from distilled alcohol not be permitted to exceed 0.5% in order to be classified as "beer." Thank you for taking my point of view into consideration. Barry Seeskin
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