

STEVEN J. DEBOY, SR
Legislative District 12A
Baltimore and Howard Counties

Vice-Chairman
Baltimore County Delegation
Appropriations Committee
Health and Human
Resources Subcommittee

Oversight Committee on Personnel



The Maryland house of Delegates

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401-1991

□ *Annapolis Office*
305C Lowe House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991
410-841-3328 • 301-858-3328
1-800-492-7122 Ext. 3328
Fax 410-841-3007 • 301-858-3007
E-Mail steven_deboy@house.state.md.
us

GIL District Office
54⁰⁸ East Drive
Baltimore, Maryland 21227
410-247-9400

July 5, 2005

Chief, Regulations & Procedures Division
Alcohol & Tobacco Tax & Trade Bureau
Attn: Notice No. 41
P.O. Box 14412
Washington DC 20044-4412

Dear Chief:

Under your regulations, most beer, wine and distilled spirits labels may not provide consumers with basic meaningful information as to what is in the product.

Most food packages, soft drink containers, over-the-counter drugs, and even dietary supplements provide consumers with basic consumer information on the label. Alcoholic beverages (with some exceptions) are the only major class of consumable goods that does not provide important information on the label, such as serving size, alcohol per serving, calories, fat and protein per serving, as well as allergens and ingredients.

I believe providing basic consumer information is necessary so consumers may make informed choices about what to drink and how much to drink. Caloric information per serving is important to anyone who is watching his or her diet. Alcohol per serving should be important to anyone trying to monitor his or her alcohol intake.

I urge TTB to act expeditiously to adopt a regulation that permits meaningful consumer-oriented serving facts on beer, wine, and spirits labels. I also urge TTB to allow manufacturers voluntarily to provide this kind of truthful, non-misleading information on labels while the rulemaking process proceeds.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steven J. DeBoy, Sr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Steven J. De *oy*,
State Delegate