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THE SENATE STATE OF NEW YORK ALBANY 12247

TOBY ANN STAVISKY Senator, 16th District

ALBANY OFFICE ROOM 504 LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING ALBANY. NEW YORK 12247 PNONE(518)455-3461 FAX(518)455-6857

DISTRICT OFFICE 144-36 WILLETS POINT BOULEVARD FLUSHING. NEW YORK 11357 PHONE (718) 445-0004 FAX(718)445-8398 September 10, .2003

Chief, Regulations and Procedure Division Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau P.O. Box 50221 Washington, DC 20091-0221

RE: TTB Notice No. 4

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my support for the US Treasury's Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) proposed rulemaking for flavored malt beverages.

Under the current regulations, we could potentially have a situation in which one state labels a product as "beer" and another state that labels the same product as a "distilled sprits".

TTB's action with help to clarify federal alcohol beverage categories which were established to maintain order in the nation's marketplace. In addition, the standard would ensure consistent products and help sustain the long-term development of the product category. Most importantly, these products will remain consistent with state tax, license, and distribution laws which would allow wholesales and retails to continue to distribute, sell and market malt beverages as they currently are.

Clarification of these categories will ensure that consumers will be afforded the protection needed so that if they purchase a flavored malt beverage they can be assured that there is uniformity in the product.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,