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State of Wisconsin DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE  
MADISON, WISCONSIN 53708-8933

Jim Doyle  
Governor

Michael L. Morgan  
Secretary of Revenue

August 6, 2003

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

Attn. Notice 4

Dear Sir or Madam:

As Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Revenue, I am writing in support of the U.S. Treasury's Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau proposed rulemaking for flavored malt beverages. (2001 R-136P)

The Wisconsin Department of Revenue, which is responsible for enforcement of Wisconsin's alcohol beverage laws, believes the proposed rule is consistent with the manner in which the federal-state regulatory structure has evolved under the 21st amendment. The proposed standard ensures the stability of the retail licensing system and the overall marketplace by providing an important clarification of federal alcohol beverage categories.

If adopted, the standard will not only maintain an orderly marketplace, but will meet consumer expectations for consistent products, and ease the state's regulatory burden. Because these reformulated products will be consistent with Wisconsin tax, license, and distribution laws, wholesalers and retailers will be able to continue to distribute, sell and market flavored malt beverages as they do today.

Thank you for this opportunity to convey the Wisconsin Department of Revenue's support for the current Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau's proposed rulemaking for flavored malt beverages.

Sincerely,

Michael Morgan  
Secretary of Revenue