



SUPPORT A ROLL BACK OF FEDERAL EXCISE TAXES FOR ALCOHOL BEVERAGES

American Beverage Licensees (ABL) asks for your support in cosponsoring legislation to roll back federal excise taxes (FET) on alcohol beverages.

- **H.R. 2488**, introduced by Rep's Shelley Berkley (D-NV) and Ron Lewis (R-KY), rolls back the FET on distilled spirits by 22% percent from \$13.50 to \$10.50 per proof gallon. It would take effect on the first date that the Director of the Office of Management and Budget projects that (1) there is a Federal budget surplus for the fiscal year that includes such date; and (2) such surplus is not less than the aggregate revenue reductions during such period resulting from the amendments made by this Act.
- **H.R. 1610 and S. 1995**, introduced by Rep's Earl Pomeroy (D-ND) and Phil English (R-PA) in the House and by Sen. Ken Salazar (D-CO) in the Senate, roll back the FET on beer by 50 % from \$18 to \$9 per-barrel.

FACT: Excise Tax Reductions Will Preserve Jobs

Since 1985, increases in excise taxes have resulted in:

- The elimination of 90,000 jobs
- Nearly \$1.3 billion in lost wages
- Costs exceeding \$150 million paid by state governments for unemployment benefits
- A reduction of over \$1.1 billion in personal and corporate income, sales and property tax revenue to federal, state and local governments

FACT: Excise Tax Reductions Will Restore Fairness

Excise taxes are regressive and force lower income families to shoulder a greater portion of the burden. Measured as a percentage of income, excise taxes have an impact that is five times greater for lower income families than for upper income families.

ABL supports the roll back of federal excise taxes (FET) on alcohol beverages. ABL urges Congress to pass legislation to eliminate regressive excise taxes and adopt a more equitable method of raising necessary government revenues.

American Beverage Licensees (ABL) America's Beer, Wine & Spirits Retailers
5101 River Road, Suite 108 Bethesda, MD 20816 301.656.1494 www.ablusa.org