



FDA Declares Formulation of Four Loko, Others, as 'Unsafe'

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Statement of CSPI Executive Director Michael F. Jacobson

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I applaud the FDA for tackling youth-oriented caffeinated alcoholic drinks and effectively getting them reformulated. Four Loko and Joose might no longer have caffeine, but they still contain three to four beers' worth of alcohol in 23-ounce, single-serving cans. That's a bad idea that deserves further scrutiny from regulators at the federal, state, and local levels. That these drinks are made with kid-friendly flavors like watermelon, blue raspberry, and lemonade says all one needs to know about their target audience. Government regulators would save a lot of young people from preventable traffic crashes, sexual assaults, and alcohol poisonings by regulating these drinks' serving-sizes and alcohol content with greater care.



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