

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

September 7, 2010

Mr. John P. D. Cato Chief Executive Officer The Cato Corporation 8100 Denmark Road Charlotte, NC 28273-5975

> Re: The Cato Corporation Form 10-K for the Fiscal Year Ended January 30, 2010 Filed March 30, 2010 File No. 001-31340 Schedule 14A Filed April 8, 2010

Dear Mr. Cato:

We have completed our review of your filings and do not have any further comments at this time.

Sincerely,

John Reynolds Assistant Director Office of Beverages, Apparel and Health Care Services