

## Dakota Soda

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**From:** Sheila Morales <cookiesandmorellc@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 25, 2022 10:23 AM  
**To:** Dakota Soda; mschristine00@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony on Michigan Cottage Food Law

House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law  
January 26, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

Hi, my name is Sheila Morales born in Puerto Rico and living in Michigan since the year 2000. My business is Cookies and more LLC located in Canton Michigan.

I started baking as a hobby in 2005 after I had my 3rd child. When the MI cottage food law was established I saw this as a great business opportunity that provided all the flexibility I needed to stay home with my children and still make some money. Reality is my bank account never grew, as a matter of fact I was losing money.

Fast forward to 2017 my real business started. I established my LLC and you can find me on Google!

Reforming the food law is important to me because opening a store front is not for everyone. When I started, my main goal was to be flexible to be there for my family when needed. The maximum revenue cap has not increased since 2010, do you remember your salary in 2010? Could you make a dent in 2022 with that? I understand that this is not a business to become a millionaire but also if there is not a cap for other small businesses selling bracelets, soap, make up, coffee mugs. just top name a few, why is there one at all for bakers? 25k is less than minimum salary so I had to find a job and loose my flexibility to be able to help with the education of my children which are now in high school and College.

Also the law has not kept up with the times. People are busy and they would rather order their products online than stop what they're doing rather than go get it. How much cash do you have in your wallet right now? Online payment has become the norm and it is a reality that is here to stay. Many of my kids friends which I could send them a happy birthday cookie to their dorms but I can't. What a nice surprise that would be!

We often participate in farmers market with our products but we have to tell the customers upfront that if they are too far to pick up anything from us they cannot order unless they find us again in that particular farmers market.

If you fall in love with my cookies you cannot get them again unless you drive two hours.

Labels are also outdated, you should see my 2 inch cookie with my 4 inch label, not pretty but I will leave it there :)

Last but not least excuse my grammar as English is my second language.  
I am available if you have questions.

Please support the following reforms to the cottage food law this legislative session:

1. Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap;
2. Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery; and
3. Allow for the use of an optional unique ID number to replace a home address on cottage food product labels.

These changes to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family, and my community.

Thank you, Chairwomen Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
*Sheila Morales*  
*Cookies and More LLC*  
*42166 Echo Forest Dr., Canton, MI 48188*

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Sheila Morales  
Cookies and More LLC  
734-678-4325  
Instagram: CookiesandMoreLLC  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/cookiesandmorebySheila>

Written Testimony Outline:

House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law

January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

My name is Beisan Hussein. I have been a hobby baker making and decorating sugar cookies for a couple years but this past year I decided to start a small business. One of the first things I did was learn more about the cottage food law. I was surprised when I learned a few things like the \$25,000 revenue cap and food labels with our address on.

To be a beginner as you can see, I was a little scared with the food labels the most. I understand people are picking up from our home but to put it on a label still is scary. My thoughts were what if someone got a hold of my label and saw that. When people have actual mom and pop stores their personal information isn't on the labels. So to me that was the big hesitation. Having a unique ID that would go straight to our small business would make me and many people feel safer.

Having a cap of \$25,000 on revenue, is very challenging for many bakers. Yes, I am not there yet but with seeing my business so far this limits many things.

Please support the following reforms to the cottage food law this legislative session:

- Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap;
- Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery; and
- Allow for the use of an optional unique ID number to replace a home address on cottage food product labels.

These changes to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family, and my community.

Thank you, Chairwomen Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Beisan Hussein

31661 Grennada St

Livonia, MI 48154

January 26, 2022

House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

My name is Christine Lebold and I am the founder of Michigan Cookiers, a private Facebook group formed to provide Michigan bakers a place to share learning, form friendships, and to help bakers, large and small.

In 2018, I started the group after taking a local cookie class. What I thought would be a dozen people sitting around my kitchen table has morphed into something quite extraordinary: a group of over 1,700 bakers from across the state representing the full spectrum from hobbyist to professional bakers. Since there is no registry for cottage food bakers, no one really knows how many exist in the state. Our group has the most access to cottage food bakers than any other.

As our membership began to swell, the issues became evident. The first issue we tackled was in 2020 when we worked with MDARD to clarify a festering issue: if bakers could transact business online (internet orders and payments). For years this issue was not resolved in the marketplace due to varying understandings and opinions. After Michigan Cookiers led discussions with MDARD, they finally determined that online orders and payments were allowed: that bakers could use things like Venmo, credit cards, and websites to capture orders and payments. A simple thing it would seem, but an issue that, until formally approved, caused many bakers to lose sales. We created several job aids and asked MDARD to approve them for accuracy, and our first ever initiative resulted in very meaningful results.

Soon, in our forum, members started to raise other, more pressing needs. There were four major issues that kept surfacing. These issues are not "nice to have" improvements. They are serious impediments that have been sorely needed:

1. Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap
2. Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery
3. Remove the requirement of home addresses on labels.
4. Remove requirement for sub ingredients on labels.

On the issue of the revenue cap, the last time it was modified was in 2012. Since then, the consumer's price index (CPI) has had a cumulative rate of inflation of 21%. Yet, our bakers' max earnings never changed because the current law does not build in an escalator for inflation to ensure earnings trend with inflation. So, with every year, bakers truly have earned less and less.

Twice a year, our industry meets from across the country. It is there, and through social media, that our members learn what other states are doing. They have learned that 30 states currently have an **unlimited** earnings cap. That many states permit shipped goods and don't require sub ingredients or home addresses on labels. With every conference, more states are progressing and modifying their policies. Our members return frustrated. Inevitably, the question raised is, "If they can do this, why can't Michigan?" Even more frustrating is that all of our neighboring states have relaxed their policies, while ours have remained stagnant. So I am here today, representing our 1,700 bakers, hoping you too will ask this question and find ways to make these improvements.

You should not take my word alone. I have asked our members to write to you, and speak to you, because their stories are compelling: from a woman closing in on retirement who is considering being a cottage baker, but won't, because of her fear of having her home address on labels. To the cottage food baker that followed the path the law intended: leaving cottage food for a brick and mortar store, only to revert back to cottage food after a year – to them, the law doesn't encourage their growth – it stunts it.

There are hundreds of stories like these and I hope as you hear them that you realize how many more are behind them. Bakers are hopeful that this committee will bring the Cottage Food Law in Michigan to a place that meets current day needs and considers the evolutions in technology, marketing, and procurement that has occurred since 2012 when this law was last amended. With the changes we've outlined, Michigan Cookiers will be able to thrive and contribute in a greater way to Michigan's economy.

While Michigan Cookiers is not a political organization, I stand here because I feel a responsibility to our members to hear them, to do what I can to help them. This is as far as I can take their concerns. So, I lay them here, and trust that you will take them the rest of the way. We just want to go back to decorating cookies and enjoying the community we've built.

We are eager to be part of that solution & will help in any way.

On behalf of Michigan Cookiers, thank you Chairperson Alexander and committee members for giving these matters your attention.

Regards,  
Christine M. Lebold  
Founder, Michigan Cookiers  
9000 Fellows Creek Drive  
Plymouth, M 48170  
[Mschristine00@hotmail.com](mailto:Mschristine00@hotmail.com)  
(734) 788-5828

## Dakota Soda

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**From:** Rachael Wilson <wrachael42@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 26, 2022 7:07 AM  
**To:** Dakota Soda  
**Subject:** Written Testimony on the Cottage Food Law

House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law  
January 26, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

My name is Rachael and I run a small cottage food bakery, Sweetalicious Bakery, in Kalamazoo. I sell cookies, cakes, cupcakes and other sweet treats. I have been in business just about a year now.

Updating the current food law is important to me for a few reasons. First, I would love to make my little bakery a full time job and the revenue cap makes this impossible for me and my family. My baking is currently completed at night after my full time job since the revenue cap is so low. I can not afford to make the move to my dream bakery with such limited time due to restrictions on what can be made.

Second, the current law keeps me limited in who I sell to currently from a safety stand point. I am very protective of my home address and have avoided signing up for farmers markets or craft sales as I do not want to give my address out to strangers. The use of a optional unique ID versus the home address on the labels would help me feel more secure and less afraid of retaliation of sorts from a disgruntled customer.

Thirdly, I have had requests to ship orders and have had to turn them down due to the current law. This limits the market I can reach.

Updating the food law has the ability to change the direction on my business and family life. I would feel more safe in my community, increase my market base and, potentially, be able to make it my full time job, fulfilling a dream.

Thank you, Chairwoman Alexander and the Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Rachael Wilson  
7953 E. Gleneagle Dr  
Kalamazoo, MI 49048

## Dakota Soda

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**From:** Kathy Oesterle <oesterle.kathy@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 26, 2022 7:06 AM  
**To:** Dakota Soda  
**Subject:** Please pass cookier legislation

I wanted to add my voice as a Cookier from Michigan to please pass the updated legislation to make our cookie business options more competitive with other states and more compensatory for hard working cottage bakers in the state of Michigan.

Thank you sincerely,  
Kathy Oesterle  
Mason, MI

Sent from my iPhone



**Written Testimony Outline:**

House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law  
January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

My name is Lindsay Clinansmith and I operate KaleidoCookie, LLC.

I am writing you to express my support for reforming the cottage food law. It is important to me for several reasons that will impact my and business significantly.

I am currently unable to live out my dream as a full-time baker. Due to the revenue cap I must continue to work an additional job. By removing this cap I could focus on baking instead of splitting my time between multiple occupations.

My business earnings are additionally limited by my inability to sell my goods by mail order. I've had to pass on many inquiries and opportunities from interested clients simply based on location. My business could thrive if I were able to sell to clients across state lines.

Most important to me is the option to have a unique ID number rather than my home address on my product labels. I have actually had people arrive at my house unannounced using the information on the label. Thankfully they did not have malicious intent. Unfortunately the cookie world was rocked in recent years by a rape that occurred in this exact manner. That could have been me had I been unlucky that day. A separate registry with a unique ID will promote a safer business for ALL cottage bakers while maintaining traceable goods in the event tracing is necessary.

Please support the following reforms to the cottage food law this legislative session:

- Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap;
- Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery; and
- Allow for the use of an optional unique ID number to replace a home address on cottage food product labels.

These changes to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family, and my community.

Thank you, Chairwomen Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Lindsay Clinansmith  
8608 Portage Lake Blvd  
Pinckney, MI 48169

## Dakota Soda

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**From:** Victoria Atkins <onetoughcookie@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 25, 2022 8:17 PM  
**To:** Dakota Soda  
**Subject:** Written Testimony on the Cottage Food Law

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

My name is Victoria Atkins, and I am the baker and owner behind One Tough Cookie.

I have been baking my whole life, but 3 years ago, after my daughter was born, decided to stay home with her and start a cottage food business to bake & sell for others. During this time, I have baked for hundreds of wonderful people celebrating all sorts of special moments- from baby showers and weddings, to birthdays and graduations, I've been welcomed into the lives of countless people with my cookies.

With being a stay at home parent, the ability to open a store front is non existent and the limitations on Michigan's Cottage Food Laws, restrict the amount of work I can take on to support my family and leaves the possibility for potentially dangerous situations to arise with my personal address being on labels.

By removing the revenue cap and allowing shipping, I would be able to better serve my cookie community and my family. By removing personal addresses and using a unique ID, the safety of my young child and family would be put first.

Please support the following reforms to the cottage food law this legislative session:

1. Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap;
2. Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery; and
3. Allow for the use of an optional unique ID number to replace a home address on cottage food product labels.

These changes to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family, and my community.

Thank you, Chairwomen Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Victoria Atkins  
17980 Fairway Street  
Livonia, MI, 48152

## Dakota Soda

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**From:** Tina Caruso <TinaLCaruso@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 25, 2022 6:20 PM  
**To:** Dakota Soda  
**Subject:** Written Testimony on the Cottage Food Law

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee,

My name is Tina Boncher and I am the owner of a small Michigan Cottage Law Business, C2 Cookie Creations. Baking for family and friends has always been a passion for me and I am glad to be able to participate the Michigan Cottage Law Community.

As with any business, regardless of the size there are always going to be advantages and limitations. I appreciate what the State of Michigan does for us in allowance with our Cottage Law, however, I also have some concerns about the requirements that we are currently under. A main priority for me is both the safety of myself and my young family. By giving us the opportunity to use a unique ID number specified to our small business instead of our home address gives me the sense of reassurance when I am selling in the community. As of current, I will not do any sales out of my home without another person present for safety measures. In addition, I feel that by allowing us to ship our products, this helps to increase the safety of ourselves and gives the opportunity to expand our business outside of our home.

I ask that you please help to further support our small business community with the following reforms to the cottage law this legislative session:

1. Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap
2. Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery; and
3. Allow for the use of an optional unique ID number to replace a home address on cottage food product labels.

These changes to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family, and my community.

Thank you, Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Tina Boncher  
7676 Buckingham Ave  
Allen Park, MI 48101

House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law  
January 26th, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee: Hello, I am Trish Adams, owner of Adams Sweet Tooth LLC, aka Twisted Sugar Boutique.

I have been operating under the Cottage Food Law since 2015 as my side hustle until 2019, at which point I leased and opened my storefront in Williamston. I unfortunately was forced to close due to Covid when on March 16<sup>th</sup> we were forced to shut down. My business couldn't recover from that and sadly I had to close the doors, end my lease and go back to Cottage Food Law. As the law currently states, I am limited to \$25,000 per year for my income, this breaks down to \$12.00 per hour and still have to pay taxes, this is an unacceptable wage in today's market. If I were able to have unlimited income, I could actually pay my bills, save for a new storefront or commercial kitchen, open up my clientele base and give me the freedom of expanding my business and talent!

I have researched the Cottage Food Laws in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Pennsylvania all of which have ZERO income caps, can ship intrastate and can sell third party. I feel if we can have the same written into our law in Michigan, I will have freedom to grow and invest in a commercial kitchen or storefront of my own as well as making a living wage!

As for my personal home address being on the label, well this is a problem in the fact that the labels/packaging gets thrown out and also goes to who knows where and puts us in possible harms way. When a commercial store has their address it's not a big deal, I don't have to worry about who is getting my product, they won't Google my residence! In another state a home baker was attacked and left for dead in her home by a man posing as someone picking up an order, this is something that should not happen to anyone and with our address on packaging, it opens us up to many things that aren't always good!

Please support the following reforms to the Cottage Food Law this legislative session:

1. Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap;
2. Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery; and
3. Allow for the use of an optional unique ID number to replace a home address on cottage food product labels.

These changes to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family, and my community.

Thank you, Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Trish Adams  
Twisted Sugar Boutique

House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law

January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

My name is Katelynn Narlock, and I own H+H Baking Co.

Reforming cottage food law is important to me because it will allow my business to grow, and to help me support my family, as well as give my customers what they need.

The 25k earnings cap, is not enough of an income to survive off of, and it is not enough income to see if you would be successful commercially. To run a commercial bakery business includes rent, electricity, employees, commercial equipment, licenses, insurance, etc. You're talking about hundreds of thousands of dollars potentially. Not to mention that not everyone, in regards to their family, can take on the project of a commercial business. Raising the earnings cap would allow so many of us to make a real income and to better take care of our families.

Having our address on our ingredient labels is also a safety concern of mine and shipping goes hand in hand with this concept. When someone orders from me, we go over every single question that they have. We establish a relationship, where they know that if they have questions, they can come to me. I think that having our addresses on our labels isn't necessary and I worry about the safety of my family. In regards to shipping, again, my customers get everything they need from me from our conversations, so a hand to hand delivery really isn't necessary either. Many other states allow shipping and have earning caps up to 250k a year.

These changes to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family, and my community.

Thank you, Chairwomen Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Katelynn Narlock  
1436 Philadelphia Ave SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49507

House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dear Chairperson Alexander and Members of the Committee:

I am Jenny VanDaele, and I have been baking under my cottage food business Sweet Galaxy Baker for the past several years. I am currently located in Monroe, Michigan.

Over the past few years I have learned so much not just about baking, but also about the business and legal side of operating a home baking entity. As I have learned more, in all of these areas, I have been able to shift and change what I do in positive ways. I appreciate that I have had the cottage food laws available to structure what I do and to allow me to do something that I love that helps support myself and my family. However, there are some areas that if changed, would allow me to continue to grow and thrive as a cottage food baker.

The first of these is the \$25,000 revenue cap. Removing the \$25,000 cap would allow me and other bakers such as myself to continue to grow throughout the year. As a cottage food business owner, I still account for my income and expenses, and I still all applicable taxes. Changing or eliminating the cap does not change this, but it would allow me to use this business to better support myself and my family. Once expenses are taken out and taxes are paid, there isn't a lot left to provide that support.

Allowing for shipping is another area that has greatly impacted my cottage food business. While I currently live in Monroe, I am also connected to people all around the state. Because I have lived and worked across southeastern Michigan, I have developed a strong network of supportive friends. There are times that they have reached out and asked to order baked goods to help support my small business. Some of them live an hour or two away from my current location. Sometimes it is not feasible to make a four hour round trip drive to pick up cookies. I have missed out on supporting celebrations for friends and they have missed out on supporting my small business because the time commitment to pickup was not doable. Many times I have been asked to ship them directly but have had to tell them that I am not able to. With the past few years of limited contact with people, this has become even more pronounced. Increasingly people have asked for shipping, or have asked if they could place an order that could be shipped to a loved one to avoid contact. Allowing for shipping would allow me to better support my customers.

The last area that impacts my cottage food business is the requirement to place my home address on all labels. People receive a cookie with my address written on it, and they believe that it is a store front or that they can stop by during the day. I am fortunate that I live in a well populated area where I feel safe, where I have family members home nearly all of the time. But it is still unsettling knowing that people can stop by thinking that they can come in and purchase items as they would at a store front. We teach our children not to share personal information such as their address with strangers, yet my address is shared at parties and celebrations on the back of baked goods that are handed out. This is a safety issue and unsettling for many of us. Having a unique ID number allows the connection to be made with my home address without the need to share it with so many unknown people.

Having these changes made to our cottage food law will have a positive impact for me, my family, and our community.

Thank you, Chairwomen Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jenny VanDaele  
1010 Scarlet Oak Dr  
Monroe MI 48162

House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law  
January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

Hello, I'm Brittany Weaver, owner and operator of Crowded Table Cookies. Crowded Table is a cottage bakery operating in Okemos, Michigan and was founded in May of 2021.

Reforming the cottage food law is extremely important to me. While I came close to my income cap of \$25,000 last year, the cost of starting a business from scratch left very little behind to profit from. As inflation soars and the cost of ingredients is higher than ever, it is critical that the earning cap be set to a realistic and livable wage. It would allow my business to continue to grow, and as we already know small businesses are the backbone of this great country.

Please support the following reforms to the cottage food law this legislative session:

1. Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap;
2. Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery; and
3. Allow for the use of an optional unique ID number to replace a home address on cottage food product labels.

These changes to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family, and my community.

Thank you, Chairwomen Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Brittany Weaver  
4527 Mantiou Drive  
Okemos, MI 48864

**Written Testimony Outline:**

House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law  
January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

My name is Kendra O’Keelean. Within the last year, I started my own home business, ksb confections, under the Michigan Cottage Food Law. I make hot chocolate bombs, cake pops/balls, chocolate covered strawberries, etc. It has been a fun experience & I have learned quite a bit.

Reforming the Michigan Cottage Food Law is an important step for those of us operating home businesses. While I am nowhere near making \$25,000 annually, I know that there are many home bakers who operate their businesses to support their families & thus, removing this revenue cap would be very beneficial for them & their families. With respect to the request to allow intrastate shipping & mail delivery, I am from the Detroit area & currently reside in SW Michigan. I have lots of family members & friends who reside in the Detroit area & would like to support me & my business & have asked about my ability to ship. Permitting home bakeries the ability to ship within the State would greatly increase my “reach” for my business. I am also supportive of allowing an optional unique ID number to replace my home address on my product labels due to safety concerns. Unfortunately, in today’s society, there has been an increase in break-ins so allowing us the option to use a unique ID number would allow us to feel safer & more protected in our homes. Additionally, for me personally, I work as a social worker with individuals involved in the criminal justice system so I would feel much safer if I were able to not include my address on my product label. I have gone through great lengths throughout my career as a social worker to keep my address private & almost did not open my business last year due to the address requirement. I believe the optional unique ID number is a great solution to a concern that many of us home bakers have.

Please support the following reforms to the cottage food law this legislative session:

1. Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap;
2. Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery; and
3. Allow for the use of an optional unique ID number to replace a home address on cottage food product labels.

These changes to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family, and my community.

Thank you, Chairwomen Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Kendra O’Keelean  
1613 Suffolk Avenue, Portage, MI 49024



House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on Cottage Food Law  
January 26<sup>th</sup> 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

My name is Tresha K. Neff I am the owner of TK's Kookies in Laingsburg Michigan. I bake decorated sugar cookies and also make Hot chocolate Bombs.

The current Cottage Food Law seems to be very dated and should be changed. I'm newer to the business, however a \$25,000.00 earning cap really hinders many of the Cottage Food Bakers that I know that have been doing this for a long time. I'm not aware of other professions that are limited to that small of amount of income. A brick and mortar business isn't an option for many of us in this industry.

As a Cottage food Baker I have been asked if I can ship my items. I have a friend and client in Gaylord Michigan and its just not feasible for her to pick up items from me and its not feasible for me to meet her half way for \$20.00 worth of product. She is not the only person that has asked about me shipping my cookies or Hot cocoa bombs, however a good instance of why it would improve my business and help me gain more customers if I could ship my items.

Lastly the option to put a unique ID number on the cottage food product labels. As a retired Police Officer of 30 years in Law Enforcement I was blown away that we are REQUIRED to list our home address on our labels, especially in this day and age. Many bakers sell at vendor events, and farmers markets and other places where they don't know many of the people purchasing their product. I feel this is extremely unsafe. It only takes one psycho, crazy person that buys your product or sees the label that has your address for something bad to happen. Just look at all the stuff going on in the world today. I think I can speak for many of the bakers we are not concerned about our regular customers, however since we do get contacted by people we don't know at all or sell at markets to people we don't know to have our address where we live with our spouses and kids is extremely unsettling.

I feel that all three of these laws need to be changed, however I am very passionate about the address on the label law. In 30 of Law Enforcement I've seen a lot of bad things and I think this is a safety issue for all cottage food bakers. I do realize that in the internet age it wouldn't take much for someone to figure our where we live, however at least they would have to do some work to figure it out not just read a label.

These changes to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family and my community. It will also make us feel safer that our address is not on every label of every product we sell.

Thank you, Chairwomen Alexander and the Members of the Committee for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,  
Tresha K. Neff  
310 Grant St.  
Laingsburg, MI 48848  
517-881-5579

House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law

January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee,

My name is Melissa Buyikian and I'm the owner of Mel B's Sweets. I create hand decorated custom sugar cookies for any occasion. I am a former hobby baker trying to make Mel B's Sweets a profitable business-but in order for that to happen there MUST be changes made to the current Michigan Cottage Food Laws. The current cottage food laws are too restrictive regarding income, the lack of ability to ship goods and the placement of a personal address on each label.

The Cottage Food Laws as they are currently written are very restrictive regarding income. The max salary that can be earned is \$25,000, which is not a sustainable income in our current economy. An increase to the max salary would allow more hobby bakers succeed in turning their passion into their profession. I would love to make Mel B's Sweets my full time job; but at this low rate I couldn't contribute to my family if I did. Increasing the cap would also stimulate growth in our own local economy. Many other states do not have an income cap.

It would also benefit cottage bakers to be able to ship their goods-at the very least in state. There are many safe ways to ship these products; there is no reason a home baker should not be allowed to do so.

Also, the labelling requirements on the baked goods needs to be addressed. Not the ingredients, but the full listing of the baker's home address. This is simply not safe and puts bakers at risk. Someone could simply show up to their home pretending to be a client and force their way inside. I have a five year old in my home and it worries me to have to give my address so freely. There are other safe ways to label, such as requiring bakers to register and use a code specific to them for tracing purposes etc.

Please support the following reforms to the cottage food law this legislative session:

1. Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap
2. Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery; and
3. Allow for the use of an optional unique ID number to replace a home address on cottage food product labels.

These changes to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family and my entire community.

Thank you, Chairwomen Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Melissa Buyikian

Mel B's Sweets

18332 Spring Court South, Fraser, MI 48026

**Written Testimony Outline:**

House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law  
January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

I am a hobby baker from Dimondale, MI. I was first introduced to MI Cottage Food Laws when I became a member of the MI Cookiers Facebook group.

After several years of baking cakes for just family and church, when I switched to and started making cookies I contemplated “going into business” under MI Cottage Food Law. One of the main reasons that held me back was the disclosing of my personal address on the food label. I am very protective of my personal life and didn’t want to have that information publicized to customers. My thoughts had been to sell cookies and meet the customers in a neutral place for personal handoff, without them knowing where I live. I think I understand the reasons why the MICFL has the requirement, for traceability, but I feel there should be a better way of doing that than by revealing the baker’s private information. The use of a MICFL registry for bakers is one such idea; where a baker i.d. number is assigned and used on products. Should the home address requirement be removed from MICFL, I might again consider going into business.

Another change I hope is taken into consideration is to allow intrastate shipping of MICFL products. That would allow the expansion of marketing possibilities.

Since I am not currently in business, the revenue cap is not relevant to me. However, should I decide to start selling, I would hope that the cap is high enough to not limit me. From communicating with other bakers, I understand that the \$25,000 cap does not allow them to sell as much as they might otherwise be able to. So, I would also hope you could consider raising, or eliminating, the income cap.

I feel that the changes I have mentioned to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, and my cookie baking community.

Thank you, Chairwomen Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Bonnie B. Reemsnyder  
9541 Billwood Hwy.  
Dimondale, MI 48821

House Committee on Agriculture, Testimony on the Cottage Food Law

January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for taking the time to help champion an important bill that impacts so many Michigan bakers.

My name is Dawn Barbosa and I own and operate DB Sweets and Treats, a baking business under the Michigan Cottage Food Laws. I began my business as a way to earn an income while working from home and raising my three children. While I love my business and have the potential for growth, the current laws limit business owners like me. The revenue cap of \$25,000 in sales impacts the growth of my business, as well as my income. I support changing the bill to increase or remove the sales cap, as well as the other changes that will help to progress the baking industry in Michigan.

Please support the following reforms to the cottage food law this legislative review:

1. Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap;
2. Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery; and
3. Allow for the use of an optional unique ID number to replace a home address on cottage food product labels.

These changes in the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family, and my community.

Thank you, Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Dawn Barbosa  
425 Harbor St.  
Canton, MI 48188

House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law  
January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

My name is Amanda Hamann, owner of Above Measure Cookies. I'm incredibly grateful for the opportunity to share my story with you! The last few years have been difficult for so many in our wonderful state, especially with the pandemic, job losses, and in many cases, depression. I have found that being able to bake from home has been not only healing, but essential to support my family both financially and emotionally.

One of the things I absolutely love about Michigan is our strong desire to support small businesses, the agricultural community, and to help our neighbors not only survive, but thrive!

It is my sincere belief that we can further strengthen our local communities and Michigan as whole by bringing some positive change to the current laws that are somewhat limiting to bakers, including raising the revenue cap and allowing us to have 3<sup>rd</sup> party delivery and shipping. Michigan is behind in these areas as there are now several other states that have much higher revenue limits, or even none at all. Many other states also allow for some form of 3<sup>rd</sup> party delivery or shipping, allowing them not only to expand their local business, but to also serve family and friends who may live farther away and bring in more revenue for their state.

I would also love to see an alternative option for home bakers regarding the requirement to list home addresses on the ingredients label. This is a safety concern for many, especially those who may have family members in the home who work in law enforcement, have children, or other situations that may require privacy of their personal contact information.

So in conclusion, please support the following reforms to the cottage food law this legislative session:

1. Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap;
2. Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery; and
3. Allow for the use of an optional unique ID number to replace a home address on cottage food product labels.

These changes to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family, and my community – and I believe beneficial to Michigan as a whole!

Thank you, Chairwomen Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration!

Sincerely,  
Amanda Hamann  
Above Measure Cookies  
2919 E Ashby Rd  
Midland MI 48640

House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law  
January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

My name is Carmelin Leisinger. I run a cottage food business named Carmy's Sweet Creations.

*Reforming the cottage law would greatly help me to build my business. Many people around my community are looking for very specialized desserts for their events. These are things that can not be found in your average grocery store. I offer very high quality/customized products. I've been operating for just under three years with less than a year being full time. All of my profit goes right back into educational classes, supplies, and equipment, which I'm still trying to build on. I feel the \$25K cap is way outdated. With the rising cost of supplies, and to get any kind of descent equipment, I am spending a lot to make very little.*

*Being able to ship within the state would allow me to reach more clientele, and would be of further benefit.*

*Allowing for an optional ID number would be much better than having my personal info on my labels. I live out in the country, but on a very busy road. I am home by myself all day until my family comes home from work. There are safety concerns when it comes to putting my personal address on labels. It would be wonderful, and of great help if you would consider these changes.*

Please support the following reforms to the cottage food law this legislative session:

1. Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap;
2. Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery; and
3. Allow for the use of an optional unique ID number to replace a home address on cottage food product labels.

These changes to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family, and my community.

Thank you, Chairwomen Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Carmelin Leisinger  
10471 Mount Hope Rd.  
Munith, MI 49259

Cottage Food Law Testimony  
Find Sweet Joy - Kelsey Mae Merrill

Dear Chairperson and members of The Committee,

Thank you for your time today as you listen to the testimony of many to help benefit the whole. We truly appreciate all you do to help better the people, communities and state of Michigan.

In 2020, when the world shut down and my husband lost his job I began this little "hobby" of making cookies for family and friends. Then I was asked by strangers to make cookies for a birthday party. From there I sat down at my computer and looked up every law and guideline I could. Having narrowed down the "rules" to what would apply to my business, I dove in headfirst into the world of elaborate sugar cookies, and more broadly, the cottage bakery industry. One year after making my first business post on Instagram, I found myself being pursued by Food Network's Christmas Cookie Challenge. Two months later, the show was filmed and I got to sit on this HUGE secret that I am a 2021 Christmas Cookie Challenge Champion on the Food Network. During that time my business started to grow and evolve. In looking back on what I have had to turn down due to shipping restrictions as well as income restrictions, I find my "paycheck" is missing at least \$15,000+.

The reality of this job is this - I am living my dream life while working my dream job. I get to be home with my kids and bring joy to others with my edible art! I get to provide for my family, in a small way. However, I truly believe I can do more. With caps on the amount of money I can make selling cookies, I am stuck when it comes to taking orders. I have to guess, and hope that I don't over sell at Easter so I still have enough left to sell to customers at Christmas. When I'm not limited by the amount I can make, I can serve more people, I make more money, and I put more into Michigan business AND taxes. In turn, I have happy customers and I don't feel squeezed by my business regulations. When looked more closely, \$25,000 means a little over \$2,000 a month, that may sound like a lot in cookies, but trust me, it's easily done. Then, when you take out the ingredients, packaging, and other components of running this business, it looks more like \$1,000-1,500 a month. Now, I'm not able to provide for my family as much as I had hoped.

The other component of the cottage food law I would like to address is putting our home address on the cookies. As a mother and wife, I want to do all I can to protect my family. Being forced to give my address out to perfect strangers is a bit scary. I feel like we as a state can protect our cottage bakers by allowing us to not have to provide such personal information to all consumers of our products.

Shipping cookies is something that not everyone wants to tackle, but when done properly, that Michigan based baker is receiving payment from someone in another state; therefore, bringing more money from other states into Michigan homes and families. I'd say that'd a HUGE win!

I know for my and my little corner of the world, the cottage bakery - home cookie business - has been life giving for us. We are so blessed to be in this space and thank you for taking the time to work to improve it for us all.

Find Sweet Joy,  
~Kelsey Mae Merrill

January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Re: House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

My name is Amber Camiller and I have a home bakery under the Michigan cottage food law. While I started this business out of a love for baking, I quickly realized how much work it takes to keep this business going. I have been in business for over two years and while I am making close to the maximum amount under the MI cottage food law (\$25k), my net income after expenses this year was under \$5k. I was a CPA in my past life and know what working long hours looks like. However, I've worked more hours at this cookie business than I did as a CPA. For such a little net income. This is not sustainable. An increase or elimination of the revenue cap will allow us home bakers to better absorb the overhead and operating costs of running a business.

In addition, I was somewhat shocked when I first created my labels and realized I had to include my home address on every item that goes out the door. This creates an unsafe situation. It seems this could be easily remedied by assigning each home baker a unique ID number that we could place on our packaging instead.

Please support the following reforms to the cottage food law this legislative session:

1. Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap;
2. Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery; and
3. Allow for the use of an optional unique ID number to replace a home address on cottage food product labels.

These changes to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family, and my community.

Thank you, Chairwomen Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Amber Camiller  
48034 Whitney Ct.  
Canton, MI 48187  
734-564-6772



## Dakota Soda

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**From:** Ginger Kaufman <gingeramma@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 5:59 PM  
**To:** Dakota Soda  
**Subject:** Testimony on the Cottage Food Law, 1/26 House Ag Committee

House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law

January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

My name is Ginger Kaufman and I am the owner of Ginger's Cookie Jar in Mount Pleasant, MI.

I started my business in fall of 2021 at the urging of potential customers as a way to provide additional income for my family while maintaining the ability to parent from home and supervise virtual school for my child when needed. Opportunities with this kind of flexibility are limited (at best) in central Michigan and it is the reason I am unable to attend in person today - I am supervising my child at virtual school for what is now the third school year.

My customer base continues to grow, but I am repeatedly asked if I can ship my baked goods. These requests come from potential customers from other states, seniors in my community who lack confidence in their ability to ship goods to loved ones and even younger customers who want to send a care package to someone.

Additionally, lifting the income cap will allow me to better provide for my family, put more money in my pocket and, in turn, spend more in my rural community.

Removing my home address from my labels will increase my sense of safety, especially when participating in local markets where I sell to hundreds of strangers.

Please support the following reforms to the cottage food law this legislative session:

1. Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap;
2. Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery; and
3. Allow for the use of an optional unique ID number to replace a home address on cottage food product labels.

These changes to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family, and my community.

Thank you, Chairwomen Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Ginger Kaufman  
1111 Stoney Creek Ln  
Mount Pleasant MI 48858

## Dakota Soda

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**From:** emily@bakeeffect.com emily@bakeeffect.com <emily@bakeeffect.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 8:46 PM  
**To:** Dakota Soda  
**Subject:** Testimony on the Cottage Food Law for the House Agricultural Committee meeting on 1/26/22

The following comments are for Testimony on the Cottage Food Law for the House Agricultural Committee meeting on January 26th, 2022.

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

My name is Emily Onken, and I am the owner of Bake Effect – a cottage food business located in Berrien County. I originally started baking as a home business when I unexpectedly lost my full-time job while also adjusting to life as a new mom. The law allowing me to sell as a home baker provided me with not only a creative outlet, but also the opportunity to supplement my husband's salary since we had suddenly become a single-income household with an additional mouth to feed. I'm so grateful that Cottage Food Laws exist in so many states that provide this opportunity to many people like me!

With this in mind, I'm also grateful for the opportunity to support reforms to the Michigan Cottage Food Law that will impact the lives of many honest, hard-working people across the state in an incredibly positive way. Specifically, I am joining with fellow home bakers to support the following reforms to the cottage food law this legislative session:

1. Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap;
2. Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery; and
3. Allow for the use of an optional unique ID number to replace a home address on cottage food product labels.

These reforms address very real concerns for real people who have the potential to impact local economies and communities in such a positive way. It's hard to imagine many people being able to support themselves, much less a family, on \$25,000 a year. In reality, after the expenses that come along with running a small business, this figure ends up being much lower. Many of us would love to take our businesses full-time but are discouraged by the relatively low cap on our growth. Many others are discouraged by the risk that comes with having to include our home address on labels that are accessible to anyone. Making changes to the cottage food law in these areas will greatly benefit me, my family, and my community, and I'm grateful that such changes are being considered now.

Thank you, Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Emily Onken  
4755 Beechnut Dr.  
St. Joseph, MI 49085

## Dakota Soda

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**From:** Cherie Scalf <cscalf996@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 9:04 PM  
**To:** Dakota Soda  
**Subject:** MI Cottage Food Law Written Testimony

House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law  
January 26 th, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

My name is Cherie Scalf and I am the owner of Short n' Sweet, MI. LLC located in Warren, MI..

I appreciate the time you are taking to hear our concerns about the current Michigan Cottage Food Laws. For myself and my family the laws as they stand limit my ability to adequately supplement our household income. My husband suffered a TBI in 2019 while serving in Afghanistan and I am now his caregiver. Being able to run a home based business and supplement our income would greatly improve our quality of life.

Please support the following reforms to the cottage food law this legislative session:

1. Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap;
2. Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery; and
3. Allow for the use of an optional unique ID number to replace a home address on cottage food product labels.

These changes to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family, and my community.

Thank you, Chairwomen Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Cherie Scalf

31357 Roan Dr.

Warren, MI 48093

## Dakota Soda

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**From:** Kaitlyn Axtell <kaitlyn.axtell@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 9:18 PM  
**To:** Dakota Soda  
**Subject:** House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law January 26th , 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

My name is Kaitlyn Axtell, I'm the owner of a custom sugar cookie business called Double Batch Confections based out of Westland, MI.

Reform of the Cottage food laws would greatly impact my business and family in many ways. I deeply rely on our business as a way to make ends meet, destress from my day job as an ICU RN, and provide whatever my kids need/or want. The current revenue cap does put a hindrance on the ability to save up for a physical building to have a commercial kitchen in, it is also difficult to make and maintain a profit, when the prices of supplies and ingredients are also skyrocketing. The cap itself makes it impossible for me to leave my day job to grow as a bakery, and have the time to dedicate to baking as well.

Allowing shipping within the state/ to other states would be very helpful and allow expansion of customer base, and continuation of business from customers that are here seasonally, have moved, or that want to gift to their loved ones in another area.

For cottage food labels, allowing the option to have a unique identifier number instead of our address is a huge safety concern for myself and for many other bakers. I have had several people show up unannounced at my home looking for baked goods that weren't bought in advance. I have also had people in my past that I didn't want to have my address be able to find me, which can be a cause for safety concerns for myself and my family.

The benefits of changing these things for the state of Michigan would include increase tax revenue opportunity, allow the state to register cottage bakers and have a more accurate count for how many the state has, and it also allows for the state of Michigan to be represented in other states by the amazing group of bakers that we currently have!

Please support the following reforms to the cottage food law this legislative session:

1. Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap;
2. Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery; and
3. Allow for the use of an optional unique ID number to replace a home address on cottage food product labels.

These changes to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family, and my community.

Thank you, Chairwomen Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Kaitlyn Axtell  
1174 S. Dowling St.  
Westland, MI 48186

## Dakota Soda

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**From:** Sally Wingle <sallyssweets2019@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 10:04 PM  
**To:** Dakota Soda  
**Subject:** Testimony on the Cottage Food Law for the House Agricultural Committee - January 26, 2022

House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law  
January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

I am a cottage food baker located in Jackson, Michigan. My business name is Sally's Sweets. I bake custom sugar cookies and sell them out of my home and occasionally at Michigan festivals and craft shows.

At this time the Michigan Cottage Food law caps the amount of income I am allowed to make at \$25,000 per year. Unlike other states, some of which have no cap, our law keeps cottage law bakers in a very low income bracket. Those who make more than that are required to rent or purchase a commercial kitchen. It would take a significantly greater amount of income to become a commercial baker. This is simply not practical for most home cottage bakers.

Over the last few years I have had to turn down several requests for cookies because my potential customers lived far enough away that they could not pick up their orders "in person", as the law requires. With the readily available internet I can easily speak with my customers, message them, text, video chat, or speak to them by telephone both before and after the sale. If the intention of the law is to make sure customers have the opportunity to ask questions about the product, I feel that this part of the law is outdated and no longer valid. I can ship my product to someone, take payments or give refunds online, and easily respond to any questions or concerns they have immediately online or by telephone.

The Michigan Cottage Law requires us to print our name, address, and phone number, and all ingredients on our product labels. This includes a breakdown of each ingredient, including what is in each ingredient. For example: Enriched flour (wheat flour, Niacin, reduced iron, thiamin mononitrate, riboflavin, folic acid, and barley flour). All of this information requires me to make my labels quite large. If someone is allergic to wheat they can see that listed at the bottom under common allergens. While I understand the need to protect the public from ingesting things that they might be allergic to, I support any legislative changes that would decrease the amount of print required on our labels.

Please support the following reforms to the cottage food law this legislative session:

1. Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap;
2. Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery; and
3. Minimize the information required on cottage food product labels.

These changes to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family, and my community.

Thank you, Chairwomen Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
*Sally Wingle*

## Dakota Soda

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**From:** Brittany Baker <couturetiki0257@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 11:54 PM  
**To:** Dakota Soda; mschristine00@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Written Testimony on the Cottage Food Laws for the House Agriculture Committee Meeting on January 26th, 2022

Dear House Agriculture Committee Chair Representative, Julie Alexander and Members of The Committee,

My comments provided in the written letter below are for Testimony on the Cottage Food Laws for the House Agriculture Committee Meeting on January 26th, 2022.

I'm writing in regards to support change for the Michigan Cottage Food Laws. I myself, am currently a creative individual and hobby baker. Creativity and Art have always played a huge role in my life and I've wanted to pursue a career doing something useful with my talents. I discovered through a position at a prior place of employment this last year that I absolutely love and possess a natural skill for baking and decorating cookies. I would really like to be able to fully support myself by working from home; baking, decorating and selling those baked goods, in order to provide for myself financially and enjoy what I do for work as well as provide a quality and delicious finished product for customers.

By improving the Michigan Cottage Food Laws, expanding the maximum earnings or rather not putting a cap on maximum earnings, would be extremely beneficial for all cottage food bakers. It would allow individuals to provide for themselves and their families while doing something they enjoy for work. The current cap on maximum earnings has been holding me back from starting a cottage food business because I wouldn't be able to make enough to support myself financially.

It would also be of incredible help and importance to my fellow cottage food producers and community in Michigan with keeping us safe (both health and physical safety) by removing the requirement of having personal information on labels. Lastly, allowing shipping, at the very least, throughout the state of Michigan, would assist with keeping everyone safe and providing a wider customer base to increase sales. I know all of these things would significantly help myself, and others, to grow from being hobby bakers to successful cottage food bakers.

I thank you for your time and consideration on these key points that have been brought to your attention by the wonderful baking community that I am a part of. Please consider making these necessary and helpful changes to the Michigan Cottage Food Laws.

Thank you kindly & Best Regards,

Brittany Baker

## Dakota Soda

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**From:** honeybunbakerymi <honeybunbakerymi@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 25, 2022 1:28 AM  
**To:** Dakota Soda  
**Subject:** Testimony on the Cottage Food Law

Thank you for your time.  
I would also like to testify in person at the meeting on January 26th.

House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law  
January 26th, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

My name is Liz Kruger, and I run a Cottage Food Law bakery called Honey Bun Bakery in Lansing.

I started my business in 2018 as a hobbyist, looking for a little extra money on the side to fall back on in an emergency. With the COVID-19 Pandemic, I chose to pursue my business full time.

The current limitations set for cottage food bakers makes it close to impossible for me to grow my business in order to achieve the goal of opening my own commercial storefront. With such a low wage cap, I am unable to save to reinvest in my business, as the cost of living takes over 90% of my earnings. I am an owner, accountant, kitchen manager, baker, sales person, marketing strategist, and more for an average of \$12/hour if I get to the maximum allowed income.

A cottage food law business will invest more into the community than a large chain store will. With more funds, I will be able to support our local farmers more and purchase many goods directly from the source such as my booth neighbors at Farmers markets, or the produce stand on the way to visit my aunt in Holt.

I absolutely love being able to bring something special to an event and through my life, since I was a child, I would bring something sweet to help brighten the celebration. Now with COVID, it is even more important than ever for me to be able to get my goods to not only friends and family, but clients I have met across the country. Everything has been digitalized, but I am unable to set up a website and allow people to submit orders. I am unable to ship goods to a family friend's son who is stationed in California on duty.

I have had people come to my home, assuming the address on my label is a store and they have tried to walk into my home. I do not feel safe with this information being on every piece of product I hand out. A commercial address is one thing, but a personal address is a high risk. All it would take is one upset customer with more anger than sense to use that information against me.

Please support the following reforms to the cottage food law this legislative session:

- Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap;
- Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery; and
- Allow for the use of an optional unique ID number to replace a home address on cottage food product labels.

These changes to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family, and my community.

Thank you, Chairwomen Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

## Dakota Soda

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**From:** Penny Fales <pennyfales@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 25, 2022 8:18 AM  
**To:** Dakota Soda  
**Subject:** Cottage Food Law

House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law  
January 26, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

My name is Penny Fales, and I am the sole operator of Sweet Pea Cookie by Penny. I operate out of Greenville, MI, and this is a very small side business for me.

Improving the cottage food laws is extremely important to me. Baking cookies is something I would like to do full time, but I am currently unable to do this for a couple of reasons. The first would be that I am not allowed to ship. I have had to turn down countless orders due to the fact that according to the MI cottage laws it is not allowed. I have daughters and a sister who live in FL, and I can't even ship cookies to them. Also, with the cap of \$25,000 it is just not a feasible living. Also, putting my personal information on my labels is very unsettling in today's world. I never know who may show up at my front door. Since my information is on every label that is on every cookie, many people now have my personal address and phone number.

Please support the following reform to the cottage food law this legislative session.:

1. Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap
2. Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery
3. Allow for the use of an optional unique ID number to replace a home address on cottage food product labels

These changes to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family, and my community.

Thank you, Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Penny Fales  
625 N Franklin St  
Greenville, MI 48838



## Dakota Soda

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**From:** Brandy Wright <brandysbakingco@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 25, 2022 9:57 AM  
**To:** Dakota Soda  
**Subject:** Testimony on the Cottage Food Law

Ms. Soda, the following statement is for the 'Testimony on the Cottage Food Law' for the House Agricultural Committee meeting on January 26, 2022.

Representative Alexander,

I appreciate you and the rest of the committee taking the time to read these comments and listen to the testimony of my fellow cottage law bakers.

My hope is that you will see the need to update Michigan's cottage food laws. One of the issues I think needs to be addressed is that we are unable to ship our products. A number of other states allow cottage bakers to ship and I am losing out on business because we can't. On all of my social media sites I explicitly state that I cannot ship, yet in the last year I have had inquiries for orders totalling over \$10,000 in sales, that would need to be shipped. I can only imagine how much more that would be if I could advertise shipping.

Along with shipping, I think we need to address how our items are labeled. Currently we are required to put our home address on every label. I'm a mom to two young children and my husband works nights. I have concerns regarding how safe it is to have my home address out there for anyone to see. In other states cottage bakers have even been assaulted by men pretending to be clients. I do what I can to stay safe (drop off at clients houses, meet at the parking lot of my local police station) but with our address on the label, that doesn't really do much. It would be great if cottage bakers could register and get an identification number that could be used in place of our home address.

Again, I thank you for taking the time to read this and hope we can work together to update these laws.

Brandy Wright  
Brandy's Baking Co.

## Dakota Soda

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**From:** McKenna Sturos <mckenna.sturos@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 25, 2022 9:31 AM  
**To:** Dakota Soda  
**Subject:** Concerning the Current Michigan Cottage Food Laws

House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law

January 26 th , 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

My name is McKenna Sturos and I am the owner of A Bite More Bakery LLC. I am a home-based bakery and operate under Michigan's Cottage Food Laws in Fenton, MI.

I am writing today to bring attention to the existing Cottage Food Laws. Currently, the revenue cap is \$25,000. This number is much too low. I created my business in 2021 and because of the incredible support from my community, within the first year as a business I already met Michigan's revenue cap. I had to turn away orders, money for my family, because the limit does not match today's standards. I cannot feasibly operate a business that only allows me to bring in \$25,000 worth of orders, and this does not include the expenses to run my bakery.

If the state of Michigan wants to encourage the entrepreneurial spirit, especially female entrepreneurs, as most home-bakeries are operated by women, it would be in their best interest to update and modernize the law. Updating the Cottage Food Laws, and completely eliminating the revenue cap, would change what I am capable of as a home-based business. It would offer the opportunity for me to pursue my baking dreams in a scalable method. It would provide a healthy, livable income for my family, while also providing goods and services to my community.

Please support the following reforms to the cottage food law this legislative session:

1. Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap;
2. Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery; and
3. Allow for the use of an optional unique ID number to replace a home address on cottage food product labels.

These changes to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family, and my community.

Thank you, Chairwomen Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

McKenna Sturos

3308 Arbor Dr

Fenton, MI 48430

## Dakota Soda

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**From:** Alison Elle Edible Art <alisonelle@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 25, 2022 10:30 AM  
**To:** Dakota Soda  
**Subject:** Written testimony on cottage food law

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee,

I am a resident of Lake Orion, Michigan, where I have operated a home baking business, Alison Elle Edible Art LLC, for the past several years. I am writing you in support of proposed changes to our Michigan Cottage Food laws. Specifically, I am seeking to have the current \$25,000 sales cap lifted.

My business focuses on elaborately decorated cakes and cookies, which are priced to reflect the skill needed to produce them. Under the current law I can only average 1-2 cakes per week. Further, the cakes are expensive to produce, requiring specialty equipment and ingredients. In 2021 I grossed just short of \$25,000 but only had a net income of roughly \$10,000. Were I permitted to increase my sales, I could work in more cost-effective volumes and justify the time- and money-saving equipment suited for a bakery.

I would also like to point out that allowing bakers to work from home, and earn a living wage doing so, is beneficial to our families. Many of us have found ourselves needing to have a caregiver available to be in the home for children doing remote learning. Sustaining a small business outside of the home is more and more difficult in our current climate.

Thank you for your time and attention,

M. Alison Lemarechal  
3720 Barn Meadow Lane  
Lake Orion, MI 48362

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law  
January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

My name is Sarah Marcero, I own Rollin' Dough Cookie Co., LLC based in Metamora, Michigan.

Reforming the cottage food law is very important to me and my family. Ten years ago, I was diagnosed with cancer. I was 22 years old and lived alone in my first apartment while attending college. I had to move back in with my family while undergoing treatment. Doctors stated I would always have the cancer until I choose to have my uterus removed and it was only at bay for the time being. Fast-forward, ten years later and shortly after I wed my husband, we began to make our family, the cancer came back. After several months of treatment and a negative biopsy, we were told fertility treatment is the only way we would be able to have a family. We began consulting with a fertility doctor early 2021, the same time I began my cookie company. This is the only way I knew how to make the extra funds we would need to make a family. Every dollar made went to a doctor bill and insurance co-pays. Shortly after my diagnosis, my husband had a large tumor removed which two types of cancer were present and went through an aggressive round of chemotherapy. We were able to store a few vials ahead of the surgery, but those are our only remaining options for beginning a family, all of which we would not be able to do without the income generated from my home cottage business.

In conclusion, please support the following reforms to the cottage food law this legislative session:

1. Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap;
2. Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery; and
3. Allow for the use of an optional unique ID number to replace a home address on cottage food product labels.

These changes to the cottage food law will help with our dream of becoming parents by allowing our out-of-state friends and family to support our IVF journey and support our privacy when needed.

Thank you, Chairwomen Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Sarah Marcero  
Rollin' Dough Cookie Co., LLC  
4611 Blood Road, Metamora, MI 48455

House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law  
January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

My name is Melissa McClure and I own a small cottage food business, Bread Crumbs, in the eastern Upper Peninsula.

Reforming Michigan's Cottage Food Law would help my business tremendously. I started a cottage food business shortly after I was diagnosed with multiple chronic illnesses that would essentially put me out of working a job where I couldn't control my hours. There are times in my day where I lose the ability to fight the fatigue that comes with these illnesses and this has put a financial strain on my family. I have been in and out of hospitals for the past 5 years now and starting a cottage food business where I can work when I can has been really the only opportunity that I've had to help my family financially. By doing a few special orders from my community here and there plus a couple farmers markets, it has helped relieve some financial stress from our household and improved my feelings of self worth.

By having the Cottage Food Law reformed it would allow me to expand my abilities to earn more income and have more options for customers who come to the Upper Peninsula in the summer and go home back to down state. I have had many summer residents ask and tell me that they wished I could ship my products to them while they are home. Our rural community in the Upper Peninsula does not have a large enough year round population to support many businesses. It is hard for small businesses to stay open year round resulting in a lack of quality items during the winter months unless you are willing to travel 100+ miles. Increasing the revenue cap and allowing intrastate shipping would make my cottage food business more sustainable year round. It would allow me to continue providing these products to my local community, as well as my customers around the state of Michigan. It would benefit my community by adding access to quality baked goods that they normally would not have on a year round basis.

Please support the following reforms to the cottage food law this legislative session:

1. Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap;
2. Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery; and
3. Allow for the use of an optional unique ID number to replace a home address on cottage food product labels.

These changes to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family, and my community.

Thank you, Chairwomen Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Melissa McClure  
3956 W M-134  
Hessel, MI 49745

## Dakota Soda

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**From:** Chunky Chicken Cookie Co <chunkychickencookie@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 4:38 PM  
**To:** Dakota Soda  
**Subject:** Testimony on the Cottage Food Law January 26th, 2022

### Written Testimony Outline:

House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law  
January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

My name is Tina Karnath and I have owned Chunky Chicken Cookie Co. in Saginaw since 2017. I make custom decorated sugar cookies for all occasions, and there seems to be a lot of occasions lately! My business has been growing steadily for almost five years. The last two years I have hit the \$25,000 gross salary limit and had to restrict sales for December, which should be my biggest selling month of the year! \$25,000 might seem like a lot, until you subtract baking supplies, packaging, new cutters, donations, tools, labels, classes to learn more techniques, vendor booth expenses, subscriptions to accounting, banking, recipe costing sites...I could go on and on. I also believe in giving back, so I regularly donate to Freeland Clash For a Cure, Swan Valley Pay It Forward, school silent auctions, sports fundraisers, church benefits and when other organizations ask.

My bottom line usually is less than half of the gross income...meaning I am working for poverty wages. I have three children, one in college, one just graduated from Ferris State University (who is a sheriff deputy in Lansing) and one in high school. These kids are expensive and I must maintain another job in addition to my business. If the salary cap were lifted and other means of gaining revenue were increased, I could devote all of my energies to growing my small business from home and giving back to my community.

Please support the following reforms to the cottage food law this legislative session:

1. Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap;
2. Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery; and
3. Allow for the use of an optional unique ID number to replace a home address on cottage food product labels.

These changes to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family, and my community.

Thank you, Chairwomen Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
*Tina Karnath*  
6380 Lawndale Rd.  
Saginaw, MI 48604

House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law  
January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

My name is Natalie Deledda, owner of Natalie's Sweet Shoppe. My home based business operates under the Michigan Cottage Food Law. I specialize in custom decorated sugar cookies.

Reforming the cottage food law in Michigan is important to me because it will allow my family the opportunity to benefit better financially with a higher revenue cap. Since starting my cottage food business just over a year ago, I continue to incur high costs necessary to start a business. The current revenue cap prevents me from being able to sell enough products to cover my start up expenses, and make any type of profit. Baseline costs for supplies and inventory will continue to be an everyday part of the business, and continue to increase. If the revenue cap is not increased as well, it will be difficult for any cottage food baker, including myself, to make a fraction of what our time is worth running our businesses.

Since the pandemic, many more people are working from home. I never imagined this would be an opportunity for me. Prior to starting my business, I was a stay at home mom. During the pandemic, while my children were participating in virtual learning, I needed a creative outlet, a stress relief. I stumbled upon a royal icing video and started decorating sugar cookies. What was once a hobby has now become a highly sought after business. Being able to provide my products to my community allows people the opportunity to support local, keep business within Michigan, and overall increases the morale of the community. Because my products are in high demand, and I enjoy spreading joy through cookies, I would appreciate the opportunity to continue to provide this to my community. If the revenue cap continues to restrict and limit me, I will be forced to quit.

It is of utmost importance to review the outdated laws which require cottage food bakers to put our home address on our products. This is outright unsafe. As mentioned before, I have young children in my home. I would like to take every precaution to ensure the safety of my family. The ability for my address to get in the wrong hands is extremely unsettling. The idea of a unique ID number, a QR code, or another identifying way of recognizing the address of where the cottage food is prepared is a necessary change.

Please support the following reforms to the cottage food law this legislative session:

1. Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap;
2. Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery; and
3. Allow for the use of an optional unique ID number to replace a home address on cottage food product labels.

These changes to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family, and my community.

Thank you, Chairwomen Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Natalie Deledda  
6375 Golfview Drive  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301

## Dakota Soda

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**From:** Brit Levin <britsbakedbites@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 3:57 PM  
**To:** Dakota Soda  
**Subject:** House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law

House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law  
January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

My name is Britany Levin and I am the owner of Brit's Baked Bites in Royal Oak. I have been a cottage baker since 2015 and continue to run a successful cookie business out of my home in Royal Oak.

Having this small business has been a dream come true. Since its inception, I have been able to help pay off my student loans, put my daughter in extracurricular activities, and provide additional funds for vacations and family time. All these things would not have been possible without my little business.

For the future, I hope to continue to grow my business and one day turn it into my full-time job. Unfortunately, in order to replace my income at my day job, I would have to purchase a storefront. As you may know, having a storefront comes with a lot of overhead expenses and time away from home, which is just not feasible with two small children.

The cottage food law allows me to fulfill my dreams from home, but the cap on earning and inability to ship keeps my small business very small and stunts the growth I hope to achieve. Changing this law would substantially impact the way I run my business. I would be able to use my bakery as a sole source of income, provide more goods for my customers, and continue to provide for my family.

Please support the following reforms to the cottage food law this legislative session:

1. Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap;
2. Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery; and
3. Allow for the use of an optional unique ID number to replace a home address on cottage food product labels.

These changes to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family, and my community.

Thank you, Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

*Britany Levin*  
903 E 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Royal Oak, MI 48067



**\*House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law**

January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

My name is Monica Orzel and my business is Color Pop Cookie Shop, LLC. I am located in Macomb County and have been formally selling cookies for a little over a year. I specialize in the widely popular custom decorated royal icing sugar cookies. I work full time for a health plan as a pharmacy fraud investigator, I am a mother to a 15 month old, and I bake and sell cookies to offset the cost of childcare. On average, I make 30-40 dozen cookies per month.\*

Reforming the cottage food law is important to me because an increased revenue cap could support a better work-life balance. I could potentially work part time, have my son home with me, and offer more cookies instead of having to turn down orders. Many other states have a significantly higher revenue cap, while some have no cap at all. For someone who is a fulltime cottage food baker, \$25K is simply not enough.

Interstate shipping would open the door to a larger customer base. Macomb County is heavily populated. Customers have expressed a desire for shipping time and time again to avoid dealing with traffic. I could accommodate corporate orders or donate to charity/fundraising events if the business owner to customer hand-off didn't exist.

I am not comfortable having my home address on my labels. I do not see the need for an address if another unique identifier is available.

Please support the following reforms to the cottage food law this legislative session:

1. Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap;
2. Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery; and
3. Allow for the use of an optional unique ID number to replace a home address on cottage food product labels.

These changes to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family, and my community.

Thank you, Chairwomen Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Monica Orzel

52388 Walnut Drive, Chesterfield, MI 48047

## Dakota Soda

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**From:** Michele Daniels <sweetcravingsbakingco@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 3:55 PM  
**To:** Dakota Soda  
**Subject:** Testimony on the Cottage Food Law

House Committee on Agriculture, Testimony on the Cottage Food Law  
January 26, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

My name is Michele Daniels and I am a Cottage Food Baker in the state of Michigan. I started my baking business in early 2021 to help offset the giant medical deductibles imposed on those of us with self employed insurance plans. I thoroughly enjoy my new job and the opportunities and flexibility it has created in my life.

I believe that the \$25,000 cap on earnings is restrictive on so many levels. After expenses and taxes are paid, it is so much less than \$25,000. It would be nice to be able to earn a fair wage. Most other states have much higher or even no caps on the earnings of home bakers. Allowing for the use of registered ID numbers and getting our personal home addresses off of food product labels is a matter of basic security. Michigan is lagging behind on these important matters.

Please support the following reforms to the cottage food law this legislative session:

1. Remove the \$25,000 cap;
2. Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery, and;
3. Allow for the use of optional unique ID numbers to replace a home address on the cottage food product labels.

These changes to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family, and those who wish to actually earn a living in this field.

Thank you, Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Michele Daniels  
11800 Tittabawassee Road  
Freeland MI 48623  
(989) 695-6554

## Dakota Soda

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**From:** Vickie Williams <slickssweetss@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 3:26 PM  
**To:** Dakota Soda  
**Subject:** Testimony for cottage food law 1/26

House Committee on Agriculture: Testimony on the Cottage Food Law  
January 26-, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Alexander and Members of the Committee:

My name is Vickie Williams!

I am so grateful for the current cottage food laws, because they have allowed me to support my family in such a hard time. I lost my job due to the pandemic, and was forced to figure out a way to support my family! After a couple years of practicing under the CFL, I would love to see some improvements made.

Please support the following reforms to the cottage food law this legislative session:

1. Remove the \$25,000 revenue cap;
2. Permit intrastate shipping and mail delivery; and
3. Allow for the use of an optional unique ID number to replace a home address on cottage food product labels.

These changes to the cottage food law will greatly benefit me, my family, and my community. I feel it is unsafe to provide my home address to so many strangers who may be purchasing my baked goods from farmers markets, or attending an event where my baked goods are present. The \$25,000 cap is also not forgiving enough. While making \$25,000 a year it is not feasible enough to invest in furthering my business.

Thank you, Chairwomen Alexander and Members of the Committee for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Vickie Williams  
Slicks Sweets  
395 6th ave Holland MI 49424

## Dakota Soda

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**From:** Amanda O <spicyam30@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 2:58 PM  
**To:** Dakota Soda  
**Subject:** Cottage Food Law reform

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Amanda Oliphant and I am a cottage food baker. My business is Golly Gee Gluten Free and I sell gluten free baked goods at farmers markets and events. I would like to see changes to the Cottage Food Law in the areas of home address requirement and the ability to ship. The requirement of home address listed on every item is a safety concern to me. I live alone and it worries me that people have my home address. I have had people yell at me at a market because they misunderstood an ingredient before so I know people can be volatile, even when talking about baked goods. In the area of shipping, it would just help me to expand my reach and client base. I have had many requests for my products from people who are too far to drive to a market. It would help me to grow my business. Thank you for listening to mine and others' concerns.

Amanda Oliphant  
2705 Trappers Cove Trail Apt 3B  
Lansing, MI 48910

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Dear Representative Julie Alexander

I am writing you today about an issue that is very important to me.

The Michigan Cottage Food Law.

As you may know, Michigan provides home bakers with the opportunity to sell homemade foods like cakes, cookies, and jam. This is a great way for entrepreneurs with big dreams but little capital to start their own small businesses out of their homes. Customers also love buying homemade, local foods from their community. Michigan's homemade food laws, however, need updating. I would love to help my community with being able to buy more goods from me, but the yearly cap is holding me back of what I could be offering to more local people.

Unlike most states, cottage food businesses in Michigan can't earn more than \$25,000 a year in revenue. Considering how much it costs to start and run these businesses, most cottage food producers are not left with much income after hitting this very low revenue cap. For some, who do this as a single business, they could never live off this kind of yearly wage, it would be impossible.

Additionally, cottage food producers must put their home address on their product labels. Cottage food entrepreneurs tend to be women of modest means in rural areas, many of whom have children. For this reason, many cottage food producers feel unsafe printing their home address on their baked goods. Therefore, please support the option to use a unique ID number in place of a home address.

Lastly, cottage good producers are not allowed to ship their goods to customers. This arbitrary restriction severely limits how and where they can sell their goods. I have several family and friends who wish to purchase from my business, but do not live within driving distance. I have hold to tell multiple people, that unfortunately due to Michigan Law, I cannot take their order and ship them items.

This issue is very important to me and my community.

Thank you for your time today

Mike Skyring