

Kenneth Hoffman

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the current laws regarding Alaska's cottage food industry. My main issue is the \$25,000 cap. It appears to be an arbitrary number. Why do more successful home businesses require heavier regulations than smaller businesses? Why is a business that only sells \$24,999 worth of product somehow "safer" than a business that sells \$25,000 worth of products. There is no science to back up that law. On the contrary, individuals that have built successful cottage food businesses generally have better food-handling and business practices than start-ups. While I haven't started my own home-based food business and not a proponent of stricter regulations on start-ups, I do believe that enforcing a sales cap on Alaskan entrepreneurs discourages them from growing their business to a full-time occupation. A better free market will undoubtedly strengthen Alaska's food economy and therefore Alaska's food security.