



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1697		DATE: 1/12/2022	
COMMITTEE: Downsizing State Government			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ANGELIQUE CHAVERRI		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: adaughteroftheking@hotmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/11/2022 8:22 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

**In a time where many have lost jobs, this is an excellent way for individuals to support themselves.
This bill is a step in the right direction.**



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. AC DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/12/2022 11:12 PM

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I am in full Support of this Legislation as it Provides Economic Development and Taxes for Our State.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MELISSA VATTEROTT		PHONE NUMBER: 314-727-0600	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI COALITION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT		TITLE: POLICY DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 725 KINGSLAND AVENUE, SUITE 100			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63130
EMAIL: mvatterott@moenvironment.org	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/12/2022 10:33 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

January 12, 2022 Representative Ben Baker Downsizing State Government Committee Missouri House of Representatives 201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 201-D Jefferson City, MO 65101 Dear Chairman Baker and Members of the Committee, The Missouri Coalition for the Environment is a statewide, advocacy nonprofit organization that works to empower Missourians to protect their environment and health. House Bill No. 1697 seeks to expand opportunities for Missourians to support themselves and feed their fellow Missourians by allowing cottage food products to be sold over the internet. For this reason, we respectfully ask that you support HB 1697. Allowing for the sale of cottage food over the internet and removing the cap of \$50,000 in annual gross income would help both the buyer and the seller, both of whom would be Missourians under HB 1697. This bill would promote Missouri-based food production, which would benefit both local consumers and the economy, and help strengthen Missouri's food system as a whole. Georgia has a similar law, which allows for the sale of cottage food products online, as long as the purchaser is in the state, (1) similar to the proposed bill. This bill could provide even more freedom for people to buy and sell food from their fellow Missourians by removing the cap on annual gross income on cottage food production. As Policy Director at MCE, my colleagues and I have worked with community members in food apartheid areas to explore innovative solutions to improve access to nutritious, safe, food. These have included working with local neighborhood groups to explore what a community-owned grocery store could look like and applying for funds to turn this vision into a reality. It has included working with consumers, food entrepreneurs, the local health department, and local elected officials to pass legislation that makes it easier for residents to grow and sell food as well as prepare and sell nutritious prepared meals in their communities while still ensuring health and zoning standards are met. I have met with community outreach staff at local grocery chains in St. Louis to discuss how they can help improve the food environment in our area. I have spoken with community development financial institutions to learn about success stories for building grocery stores in the rural Midwest. One thing I've gathered from all of these efforts is that if the community is not involved from the beginning the effort will not be long lasting and allowing for online sales puts residents directly in charge. Residents know what they want and they can work together; they also know the size of a store their local community would need and the particular products that are healthy, culturally appropriate, and will sell in their community. To strengthen Missouri's local economies and access to nutritious food for all Missourians, we must embrace a multitude of innovative ways to get more food to more people. Expanding cottage food sales in Missouri to the internet is just one of those ways we should do this. As also one who was greatly involved in the development of SB 441/HB 597 (2020), the Food Security Task Force bill, I urge you to see the interconnectedness of HB 1697 to other recent efforts of the Missouri Legislature and vote in support. Sincerely, Melissa Vatterott, JD Policy Director Missouri Coalition for the Environment mvatterott@moenviron.org (314) 727-0600, ext. 111(1)

Rice et al., Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic, Cottage Food Laws in the United States (2018), p. 11, https://chlpi.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/FLPC_Cottage-Foods-Report_August-2018.pdf.