**“COTTAGE LAW” ACT No. 542 HOUSE BILL NO. 1270 (effective 8/1/14)**

To amend and reenact R.S. 40:4.9(A)(1), (2)(introductory paragraph), (b), (c)(introductory paragraph), (ii), and (iv), (B), and (C) and to enact R.S. 40:4.9(D) and (E), relative to certain foods prepared in the home for sale; to provide for application of the state Sanitary Code; to provide for regulations concerning preparation of low-risk foods in the home for public consumption; to provide a definition of low-risk foods; to provide special conditions for preparation and sale of certain baked goods; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 40:4.9(A)(1), (2)(introductory paragraph), (b), (c)(introductory paragraph), (ii), and (iv), (B), and (C) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 40:4.9(D) and (E) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§4.9. Low risk foods; preparation in home for public consumption

A.(1)(a) No provision of the state Sanitary Code or any provision of any other law or regulation that requires any equipment, design, construction, utensils, supplies, preparation, or services shall apply to the preparation of low-risk foods, as defined in Subsection E of this Section, in the home for sale. This Section shall not be construed to allow the sale or distribution of any unwholesome food.

(b) The provisions of Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph shall not apply to any preparer of breads, cakes, cookies, or pies who employs any individual to assist in the preparation of such food for sale.

 (2) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, all of the following restrictions, conditions, and requirements shall apply to the preparation of breads, cakes, cookies, and pies in the home for sale:

(b) The building shall be constructed so as to exclude rats, mice, roaches or other vermin. Domestic pets shall be excluded in any part of the establishment where the preparation and baking of such bakery products takes place.

(c) All equipment used or connected in any way with the manufacture, baking, cooking or other processing, handling, packing, or storing of any bakery product shall comply with the following:

(ii) Refrigeration shall be provided so that all perishable food products used in the manufacturer processing of any kind connected with the production, distribution, or sale of bakery products shall be maintained at a temperature not to exceed forty-five degrees Fahrenheit.

 (iv) All barrels, boxes, tubs, pails, kneading troughs, machines, racks, pans, or other receptacles used for holding materials from which bakery products are manufactured shall be kept clean and sanitary and shall be so constructed as to be easily cleanable.

B. This Section shall not apply to any preparer of low-risk foods made at a home for sale, whose gross annual sales equal twenty thousand dollars or more.

C. No individual who prepares breads, cakes, cookies, or pies in the home for sale to the public pursuant to this Section shall sell such foods to any retail business or individual for resale.

D.(1) Any individual who prepares low-risk foods in the home for sale, as authorized by this Section, shall affix to any such food offered for sale a label which clearly indicates that the food was not produced in a licensed or regulated facility.

(2) No individual who prepares low-risk foods in the home shall sell such foods unless he has applied for and been issued all of the following:

(a) A Louisiana General Sales Tax Certificate from the Louisiana Department of Revenue.

(b) A local sales tax certificate from the local taxing authority of any jurisdiction in which he intends to sell foods.

**E. For purposes of this Section, "low-risk foods" shall include all of the following, none of which shall consist of any animal muscle protein or fish protein:**

 **(1) Baked goods, including breads, cakes, cookies, and pies. (5) Jams, Jellies, and preserves**

 **(2) Candies. (6) Pickles**

 **(3) Dried mixes. (7) Sauces and syrups**

 **(4) Honey and honeycomb products. (8) Spices**