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CC: <dmead@house.mi.gov>
Date: 5/3/2010 4:03 PM
Subject: HB 5837, 5280 - Cottage Food Bill

Dear Representatives Huckleberry and Byrnes

I am writing to you to voice my support, and to ask for your support, for the "Cottage Food Bill," which I believe is now HB 5280.

As Chair of the non-profit Slow Food Huron Valley, and board member for the HomeGrown Festival (connecting local food, farms, and community), I'm well aware of this region's vibrant support for the local food movement, along with the urgency with which Michigan needs every possibility for growing a healthy economy. I believe HB 5280 will open new avenues for individual creativity, and will create the "value networks" (chains of supportive relationships among businesses and entrepreneurs) that researcher Ken Meter of Minnesota's Crossroads Institute has found to build a vibrant local food system.

The passage of this bill could be an important step toward economic recovery for many Michigan families, as well as a crucial piece of a larger focus on food and sustainable agriculture as a path forward for our state. I hope you will give this bill your full support.

Thank you,

Kim Bayer
Chair, Slow Food Huron Valley
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