



# NEWS RELEASE

---

## LOUISIANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

---

Tuesday, May 20, 2014 • Contact: Glen Duncan (225) 342-9795

---

### **Home-cooking entrepreneurs gets boost**

**BATON ROUGE** – Enterprising bakers and cooks got some help overcoming a daunting list of sanitary codes and regulations to try to start their own home-based business.

Representative Scott Simon – R, Abita Springs, is chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare and past chairman of the Sustainable Local Food Policy Council. His bill, HB 1270, will allow up-and-coming, home-based bakers, cooks and confectioners to prepare a wider variety of food items under a simple set of sanitary and food preparation regulations.

“We’ve made past exceptions to health rules to allow citizens to make a short list of specific treats at home: mainly homemade jams, jellies, honey, cookies and cakes,” said Simon, “But to really kick start a home-based economy, we need to make it easier for budding chefs and bakers to bring more items to local markets without the burden of stifling food preparation codes.”

Simon’s bill expands the short list of allowed specific food items to replace them with a list called the “low risk foods”, meaning primarily baked goods.

To improve his efforts to assist home-cooks, Simon created substitute bill, HB 1270, to replace his original, HB 775. The substitute bill is scheduled for debate in the Senate Health and Welfare Committee on May 21, 2014.

###