

# HOUSE BILL 535

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By: **Delegates Arentz, Ghrist, Jacobs, T. Morgan, and Reilly**

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2026

Assigned to: Health

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Food Establishments – Cottage Food Businesses – Maximum Annual Revenue**

3 FOR the purpose of increasing the maximum amount of annual revenue a business may  
4 generate from the sale of cottage food products to be considered a cottage food  
5 business; and generally relating to cottage food businesses.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
7 Article – Health – General  
8 Section 21–301(a) and (b–2)  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
12 Article – Health – General  
13 Section 21–301(b–1)  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
17 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article – Health – General**

19 21–301.

20 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

21 (b–1) “Cottage food business” means a business that:

22 (1) Produces or packages cottage food products in a residential kitchen;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(2) Sells the cottage food products in accordance with § 21–330.1 of this subtitle and regulations adopted by the Department; and

(3) Has annual revenues from the sale of cottage food products in an amount not exceeding ~~[\$50,000]~~ **\$100,000**.

(b–2) “Cottage food product” means a nonhazardous food, as specified in regulations adopted by the Department, that is sold in the State in accordance with § 21–330.1 of this subtitle and regulations adopted by the Department:

(1) Directly to a consumer from a residence, at a farmer’s market, at a public event, by personal delivery, or by mail delivery; or

(2) To a retail food store, including a grocery store, or a food cooperative.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2026.