
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO DETERMINE A METHOD
OF GATHERING DATA ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISM CROP
RESEARCH PROJECTS IN THE STATE AND THEIR LOCATIONS AND MAKE
THIS DATA AVAILABLE TO FARMERS IN HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, genetically modified organisms are living
2 organisms whose genetic make-up has been changed by any method,
3 including natural processes, genetic engineering, cloning, or
4 mutagenesis and generally refer to living organisms at all
5 levels where portions of the DNA from one organism is generally
6 introduced into and made part of the DNA of another organism,
7 for instance, to confer resistance to a specific organism or
8 chemical; and

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10 WHEREAS, genetically modified organisms have many uses,
11 including improving crop strains by, for example, increasing
12 resistance to pests and improving yields by shortening the
13 growing cycle; and

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15 WHEREAS, research on the potential effects on humans and
16 the environment of genetically modified organisms is nascent and
17 incomplete at best; and

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19 WHEREAS, due to these uncertainties, there is widespread
20 resistance to consumption by humans of genetically modified
21 agricultural products for health reasons; and

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23 WHEREAS, as a result, certain nations have refused to
24 import agricultural products that have been genetically
25 modified; and

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27 WHEREAS, Hawaii is home to a multitude of laboratory and
28 open-field research projects involving genetically modified
29 organisms; and

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1 WHEREAS, many Hawaii farmers fear cross-contamination of
2 their crops by genetically modified organisms; and

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4 WHEREAS, the nature of genetically modified organism
5 research projects and their locations in Hawaii are currently
6 not public information; and

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8 WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the State and Hawaii's
9 farmers to be informed of the nature of genetically modified
10 organism research projects and their locations in Hawaii in
11 order to safeguard their crops; now, therefore,

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13 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
14 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
15 of 2006, the Senate concurring, that the Department of
16 Agriculture is requested to determine a method of gathering data
17 on genetically modified organism crop research projects in the
18 State and their locations; and

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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture
21 is requested to make this data available, upon request, to
22 farmers in Hawaii; and

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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
25 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
26 Board of Agriculture.

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OFFERED BY:

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