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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. Growth in genetically engineered agricultural  
2 production has been swift and pervasive throughout the nation.  
3 The quick acceptance of the new technology, however, may pose  
4 serious consequences for the health and safety of our citizens.  
5 Further, because of an exchange of genetic material between  
6 genetically modified crops and conventional crops, wild plants,  
7 and organisms is known to occur, genetically modified material  
8 and any adverse characteristics it confers or promotes could be  
9 irreversibly dispersed into the wider environment.

10           In Hawaii, the coffee-growing industry is widely known  
11 around the world and deeply imbedded in our culture. The  
12 legislature finds that commercially experimenting with the  
13 genetic engineering of this crop without examining and  
14 evaluating the adverse effects of this process is careless and  
15 may have far-reaching, irreversible, and unintended  
16 consequences.



1           The purpose of this Act is to create a ten-year moratorium  
2 on field testing, propagating, cultivating, raising, and growing  
3 of genetically modified coffee.

4           SECTION 2. Chapter 321, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
5 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
6 and to read as follows:

7           "§321-       Genetically modified organisms; moratorium;  
8 coffee. No genetically modified coffee shall be field tested,  
9 propagated, cultivated, raised, or grown in the State.

10          As used in this Act:

11          "Genetically modified" means alterations to a life form or  
12 its living progeny at the nucleic acid level, using the  
13 techniques collectively referred to as recombinant DNA  
14 technology.

15          "Recombinant DNA technology" means the transfer of genes,  
16 regulatory sequences, or nucleic acid between hosts by the use  
17 of vectors or laboratory manipulations and include the  
18 insertion, excision, duplication, inactivation, or relocation of  
19 specific genes, regulatory sequences, or sections of nucleic  
20 acid. This term does not apply to material or an organism  
21 developed exclusively through traditional methods of breeding,  
22 hybridization, or nondirected mutagenesis."

1 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

2 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2006 and  
3 be repealed on June 30, 2016.

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INTRODUCED BY: Ray L. Hunt  
Steve Gold

**Report Title:**

Genetically Modified Organisms; Coffee; Moratorium

**Description:**

Provides a 10-year moratorium on field testing, propagating, cultivating, growing, and raising genetically engineered coffee.

