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## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO COMPILE A REPORT  
ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED FOOD CROPS.

1 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii has a strong interest in  
2 promoting diversified agriculture as a means to help our island  
3 state achieve greater self-sufficiency; and  
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5 WHEREAS, genetic modification of food crops is a  
6 controversial issue; and  
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8 WHEREAS, proponents of genetic modification of food crops  
9 say that crops can be genetically modified to increase their  
10 resistance to disease and harmful insects and that further  
11 research, including field testing, is needed; and  
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13 WHEREAS, opponents of genetic modification of food crops  
14 say that they fear that pollen from genetically modified crops  
15 might contaminate non-genetically modified crops, particularly  
16 organically grown crops; and  
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18 WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the State of Hawaii to  
19 protect the viability and sustainability of its diversified  
20 agriculture industry; and  
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22 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii also has a strong interest in  
23 protecting our precious environment and food sources and  
24 promoting the health and safety of the public; and  
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26 WHEREAS, the Legislature needs impartial information in  
27 order to make an informed decision; now, therefore,  
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29 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth  
30 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, the  
31 House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislative  
32 Reference Bureau is requested to compile a report on genetically  
33 modified food crops; and



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2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference  
3 Bureau is requested to include in its report:

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5 (1) A summary of findings from the literature on the  
6 issue, including the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation's  
7 coexistence report;  
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9 (2) A summary of arguments for and against genetically  
10 modified food crops, including benefits and drawbacks;  
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12 (3) Information on laws in other states that regulate  
13 genetically modified food crops, including the use of  
14 moratoria;  
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16 (4) Information on the types of genetically modified food  
17 crops that are now being grown in Hawaii and available  
18 information on:  
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20 (A) Revenues generated;  
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22 (B) Acreage used; and  
23  
24 (C) Workers employed;  
25  
26 (5) Information on which companies are currently growing  
27 genetically modified food crops in Hawaii and which  
28 islands they are growing them on;  
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30 (6) Information to the extent practical of sites in Hawaii  
31 where genetically modified food crops are being field  
32 tested or grown;  
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34 (7) Information on what precautions are being taken by  
35 growers of genetically modified food crops in Hawaii  
36 to prevent or minimize cross-contamination with non-  
37 genetically modified food crops;  
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39 (8) A discussion of the risks and consequences of cross-  
40 contamination of non-genetically modified food crops;  
41 and  
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43 (9) Possible compromises between proponents and opponents  
44 of genetically modified food crops; and



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2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference  
3 Bureau is also requested to explore possible regulation to  
4 prevent cross-contamination of non-genetically modified food  
5 crops; and  
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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference  
8 Bureau is further requested to consult with any interested  
9 parties in both the public and private sectors for assistance;  
10 and  
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference  
13 Bureau is requested to submit any findings and recommendations,  
14 including any necessary proposed legislation, to the Legislature  
15 not later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular  
16 Session of 2008; and  
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
19 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the  
20 Legislative Reference Bureau, the President of the Hawaii Farm  
21 Bureau Federation, and the President of the University of  
22 Hawaii, and the Dean of the College of Tropical Agriculture and  
23 Human Resources.

