

JAN 19 2007

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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR A GENETIC ENGINEERING ASSESSMENT.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that genetic engineering  
2 is a new science that has not yet received any long-term  
3 evaluation of its effects on the health of human bodies, other  
4 living creatures, and the environment. Japan, the European  
5 Union, and the majority of other nations in the world are  
6 limiting, if not barring, the importation of genetically  
7 engineered foods into their respective countries and questioning  
8 the safety of genetic engineering technology upon our health and  
9 environment.

10           The legislature also finds that the drift of pollen from  
11 genetically engineered crops has been scientifically documented  
12 to extend two or more miles away from those plantings, and  
13 therefore poses potential risks to the organic farm industry and  
14 other farms not using genetically engineered crops, including  
15 industrial and home plantings. In addition to the potential  
16 effects on Hawaii's agriculture industry, genetic engineering  
17 also could have unforeseen effects on Hawaii's precious native  
18 ecosystems and the biodiversity of our sensitive island



1 environments. The health and purity of our islands' ecosystems  
2 should be assured top priority before the State of Hawaii  
3 ventures down the road of untested biotechnology.

4 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the  
5 University of Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and human  
6 resources to conduct an assessment and evaluation of the  
7 potential long-term effects of allowing genetic engineering to  
8 occur in the State of Hawaii.

9 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$100,000, or so much  
11 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and the  
12 same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
13 2008-2009, for the University of Hawaii college of tropical  
14 agriculture and human resources to conduct an assessment and  
15 evaluation of the potential long-term effects of allowing  
16 genetic engineering to occur in the State of Hawaii.

17 SECTION 3. The sums appropriated shall be expended by the  
18 University of Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

19 SECTION 4. The University of Hawaii cooperative extension  
20 service, the department of agriculture, and the department of  
21 business, economic development, and tourism shall cooperate with  
22 and provide assistance to the University of Hawaii college of



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1 tropical agriculture and human resources. The University of  
 2 Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and human resources shall  
 3 report all work, ongoing or planned, with genetic engineering  
 4 and associated technology to the legislature no later than  
 5 twenty days prior to the convening of the 2008 regular session.

6 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.

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INTRODUCED BY:           *R. J. Dig.*            
                                   *by request*



**Report Title:**

Genetic Engineering; Study; UOH; CTAHR

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to the University of Hawaii to assess the long-term effects of allowing genetic engineering to occur in the State.

