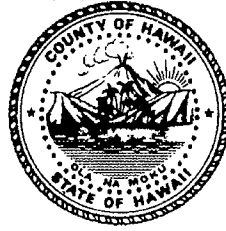


KENNETH G. GOODENOW
County Clerk



RODNEY OSHIRO
Deputy County Clerk

Mailing Address:
(Former County Building)
25 Aupuni Street
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

Business Address:
333 Kilauea Avenue, Second Floor
Ben Franklin Building
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

County of Hawai'i
Office of the County Clerk

Telephone: (808) 961-8255 Facsimile: (808) 961-8912

October 15, 2009

DEPT. COMM. NO. 8

The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senator Hanabusa:

As directed in Resolution 220-09 (Draft 3), which was adopted by the Council of the County of Hawai'i on October 7, 2009, I am forwarding your copy.

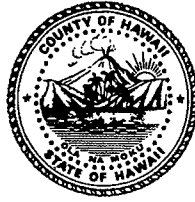
Yours very truly,

Kenneth G. Goodenow
County Clerk
County of Hawai'i

KGG/dt

Enclosure

COUNTY OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII

RESOLUTION NO. 220 09
(DRAFT 3)

A RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO PASS LEGISLATION REQUIRING THE LABELING OF ALL FOOD PRODUCTS IN THE UNITED STATES THAT HAVE BEEN GENETICALLY ENGINEERED OR CONTAIN INGREDIENTS THAT HAVE BEEN GENETICALLY ENGINEERED.

WHEREAS, according to the USDA's Economic Research Service, 92 percent of soybean acreage and 63 percent of corn acreage were genetically engineered in 2008; and

WHEREAS, according to the Center for Food Safety, an estimated 70-75 percent of processed foods on supermarket shelves contain genetically engineered ingredients; and

WHEREAS, scientific studies over the past decade have revealed that genetically engineered foods can be harmful to humans, domesticated animals, wildlife, and the environment; and

WHEREAS, despite the risks, the United States government continues to allow American citizens to unknowingly consume genetically engineered foods; and

WHEREAS, Consumer International was founded in 1960, and with over 220 member organizations in 115 countries, it is the world federation of consumer groups that serves as the only independent and authoritative global voice for consumers; and

WHEREAS, according to Consumer International, there are more than 40 countries that already have mandatory labeling of genetically engineered foods, accounting for roughly one-third of the world's population, which includes Australia, Brazil, China, Czech Republic, Hong Kong, Japan, Russia, South Africa, South Korea, Taiwan, New Zealand, and the European Union (consists of 27 member states); and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 25, which was unanimously approved in 2005 by Alaska's House and Senate and signed into law by Governor Frank Murkowski as Chapter 26 SLA 05, requires all genetically engineered fish and shell fish to be conspicuously labeled, whether packaged or unpackaged; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 26 SLA 05 is the first labeling law in the United States for genetically engineered foods; and

WHEREAS, in 2002, Oregon added Measure 27 to the state's ballot that would have required labeling of genetically engineered foods, but the measure was defeated; however, it should be noted that a coalition of corporate giants spent \$5.5 million to campaign against the measure; and

WHEREAS, the following are the eight basic consumer rights, which were adopted by the United Nations' General Assembly in 1985:

1. **The right to safety:** To be protected against products, production processes, and services which are hazardous to health and/or life.
2. **The right to be informed:** To be given facts needed to make an informed choice, and to be protected against dishonest or misleading advertising and labeling.
3. **The right to choose:** To be able to select from a range of products and services that are offered at competitive prices with an assurance of satisfactory quality.
4. **The right to be heard:** To have consumer interests represented in the making and execution of government policy and in the development of products and services.
5. **The right to satisfaction of basic needs:** To have access to basic essential goods and services, adequate food, clothing, shelter, health care, education, and sanitation.
6. **The right to redress:** To receive a fair settlement of just claims, including compensation for misrepresentation, shoddy goods, or unsatisfactory services.
7. **The right to consumer education:** To acquire knowledge and skills needed to make informed, confident choices about goods and services while being aware of basic consumer rights and responsibilities and how to act on them.
8. **The right to a healthy environment:** To live and work in an environment which is non-threatening to the well-being of present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, there is an ethical and moral obligation to provide accurate and non-misleading information in order for consumers to make an informed choice on whether or not to purchase and consume genetically engineered foods; and

WHEREAS, a poll released by ABC News found that 92 percent of the American public wants the Federal government to require mandatory labeling on genetically engineered foods; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF HAWAI'I that it urges Congress to pass legislation requiring the labeling of all food products in the United States that have been genetically engineered or contain ingredients that have been genetically engineered.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that by adopting this resolution, the Hawai'i County Council expressly does not waive its home-rule authority in the future to enact, for Hawai'i County, GMO (Genetically Modified Organism) labeling requirements.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the County Clerk shall forward a copy of this resolution to the Honorable U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye, the Honorable U.S. Senator Daniel K. Akaka, the Honorable U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer, the Honorable U.S. Representative Neil Abercrombie, the Honorable U.S. Representative Mazie Hirono, the Honorable U.S. Representative Dennis Kucinich, the Honorable Senate President Colleen Hanabusa, the Honorable Senate Vice President Russell S. Kokubun, the Honorable House Speaker Calvin K.Y. Say, the Honorable Senator Josh Green, the Honorable Senator Dwight Y. Takamine, the Honorable Senator Mike Gabbard, the Honorable Representative Jerry L. Chang, the Honorable Representative Denny Coffman, the Honorable Representative Cindy Evans, the Honorable Representative Faye Hanohano, the Honorable Representative Robert N. Herkes, the Honorable Representative Mark Nakashima, the Honorable Representative Clift Tsuji, the Honorable Mayor William P. Kenoi, and the Hawai'i State Association of Counties Executive Committee.

Dated at Kona , Hawai'i, this 7th day of October , 2009.

INTRODUCED BY:



COUNCIL MEMBER, COUNTY OF HAWAI'I

COUNTY COUNCIL
County of Hawai'i
Hilo, Hawai'i

I hereby certify that the foregoing RESOLUTION was by the vote indicated to the right hereof adopted by the COUNCIL of the County of Hawai'i on October 7, 2009 .

ATTEST:


COUNTY CLERK CHAIRPERSON & PRESIDING OFFICER

ROLL CALL VOTE

	AYES	NOES	ABS	EX
ENRIQUES	X			
FORD	X			
GREENWELL	X			
HOFFMANN			X	
IKEDA	X			
NAEOLE	X			
ONISHI	X			
YAGONG			X	
YOSHIMOTO	X			
	7	0	2	0

Reference: C-472.7 /EMC -6
RESOLUTION NO. 220 09
(DRAFT 3)