



Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.

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Phone (808) 885-5599 • Fax (808) 887-1607
e-mail: HICattlemens@hawaii.rr.com

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
Monday February 4, 2013 9:30 a.m. Auditorium

HB 174 Relating to Food Labeling

Requires, beginning 01/01/14, specific labeling for any food or raw agricultural commodity sold in the State
That contains or was produced with a genetically engineered material.

Chair Wooley, Vice Chair Onishi and Members of the Committees:

My name is Alex Franco, I manage a beef processing operation called Maui Cattle Company and I am President of the Hawaii Cattlemen's Council. The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc. (HCC) is a statewide organization comprised of five county level Cattlemen's Associations that occupy approximately 25% of the State's total land mass.

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council **Strongly Opposes** HB 174.

Many local beef producers are moving toward raising Grass Fed Cattle as there is a growing demand for this product in Hawaii. As this growing local beef industry transitions itself to become part of Hawaii's local food movement it also needs to diversify its marketing efforts into value added products to remain viable. Value added products increases revenue off of beef cuts that would normally be used for ground beef product.

To maintain our Grass Fed niche in our value added products we continue to source natural substitutes for ingredients such as MSG and Nitrites as we feel the use of these natural substitutes are a healthier alternative and label our products as such, so we are able ask a higher price to off set its higher costs. Part of the success of a value added program is sourcing seasoning produced by reputable spice companies that are safe, free of contaminants, and are able to acquire ingredients on a consistent basis.

Unfortunately after checking with our spice company, they are unable to consistently source soy and corn products that are not genetically modified. If HB 174 passes we find it bewildering that we would need to label our product as it may or may not containing genetically engineered materials which once mixed with our beef, dilutes to far less than a quarter of one percent of the total product.

A label stating Contains Genetically Modified Organism on our product will trump all of the health benefits that we have worked hard to develop over the last ten years and will stifle value added product development efforts on large scale basis in Hawaii.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify on this very important issue for our local beef industry.

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 4:04 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: amara@mindspring.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amara Karuna	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please mandate the labeling of GMO products in Hawaii.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 3:53 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: amritagrace@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amrita Grace	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I fully support GMO labeling in Hawaii! Thank you.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 7:59 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: andrew_lane@ymail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrew Lane	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 12:01 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: andrewsmith86@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrew Smith	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am against unneccasary labeling laws. When food is GMO free it generally says so on the label, and if it doesn't the producer is missing out on a cheap way to add value to their product. GMO crops are neccasary to feed a large population of people in an economical way. We should not be punishing food makers with laws that have no scientific data backing them.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 12:41 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: angelavideotron@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Angela Breene	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Agriculture Committee Hearing 2/4/13 Regarding Support of HB174 Aloha Representatives, I strongly support HB174. Labeling of genetically modified food is absolutely and urgently necessary to enable the public to protect our own health. Genetically modified foods have been proven to cause allergic reactions, digestive and reproductive problems. The process of growing GMO crops uses more pesticides and herbicides than I care to support. I want to have accurate labeling to avoid these foods. Labeling is easy for manufacturers and will not make food more expensive. Please pass HB174. Mahalo, Angela Breene Haleiwa, HI 96712
angelavideotron@gmail.com

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Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 8:35 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: angelaflynn80@msn.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM
Attachments: hb174.odt

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Angela Flynn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 3:32 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: suiteness@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Annie Suite	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Honorable Chairperson and Committee: Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of the passage of HB 174. My name is Annie Suite, and I like knowing what I am eating. Like most people, I think I am eating a healthy, balanced diet. When I shop, I read labels to make sure I am making choices that are intentional. What I don't see on those labels is whether what I am holding in my hands has been altered in some way by genetically inserting material from one species (animal, plant, bacteria, virus) or chemical into the genetic sequencing of another species. This concerns me because there have been no long term studies on the effects of consuming products of Genetically Engineering on humans. It seems logical that our citizens should have the right to choose whether to eat foods that haven't been proven safe for long-term consumption. A simple label gives me the opportunity to make that decision myself. Just like I can read a label and see how much trans fat it contains... and make an educated choice regarding whether or not to eat it. If I were to visit Japan, and pick up a Rainbow Papaya grown in the state of Hawaii, I would see a label telling me it is a product of Genetic Engineering. Why don't the citizens of Hawaii have the same right regarding the same product on our own soil? We all have the right to make educated decisions for ourselves and for our families. Your YES vote on HB174, proves you agree. Thank you for your time and service. Sincerely, Annie Suite Kailua, HI

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House Committee on Agriculture

February 4th, 2013 9:30 am

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 174 by Anthony Aalto

Aloha Chair Wooley and members of the Committee

I am Chair of the O'ahu Group of the Sierra Club, but I am testifying as a parent.

I believe this issue is first and foremost one of transparency and choice. We have a right to know what is in the food that we eat.

Frankly it seems to me that the safety of GMOs for human consumption is still a matter of scientific debate - for that reason I try to ensure that I feed my child food that does not contain GMOs. That is why labeling is such a concern.

My second concern is that production of GMOs and experimentation with GMO seeds in Hawaii involves the use of huge amounts of pesticides with an inevitable deleterious effect on our land and on the health of the people in the communities surrounding the fields where the GMO crops are sprayed. While labeling will do nothing to address this concern, it should at least give consumers an opportunity to understand the extent to which GMO substances are incorporated into the average diet.

For these reasons I urge you to pass this bill.

Mahalo

Anthony Aalto

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 8:30 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: anthonykent@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anthony Kent	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Honorable Representatives; I strongly support the labeling of foods with genetically modified ingredients. A number of studies have revealed that GMO foods can pose serious risks to humans, domesticated animals, wildlife and the environment. Human health effects can include higher risks of toxicity, allergenicity, antibiotic resistance, immune-suppression and cancer. The use of genetic engineering in agriculture has led to uncontrolled transgenic pollution, threatening numerous microbial, plant and animal species with extinction; a dramatic increase in pesticides released into our environment; and the creation of an epidemic of herbicide-resistant "superweeds." These health and environmental impacts matter to the public and support the requirement that these foods be labeled. I do not wish economic harm to the individuals or companies engaging in GMO food production. Rather, in the U.S., we pride ourselves on having choices and making informed decisions. But under current laws, we don't have that ability to make informed choices when it comes to GMO ingredients in the foods we purchase and feed our families. A market system can only work if the consumer has the ability to make choices. GMO labeling is already required in most of Europe. The same information should be available to local consumers. I urge you to pass HB174 for the mandatory labeling of foods with GMO ingredients. Sincerely, Anthony Kent Hilo, HI anthonykent@hotmail.com

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: redahi@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
B.A. McClintock	Respiratory & Environmental Disabilities Assoc HI	Support	No

Comments: This is one of the most sensible bills on our dockets this year. For those of us disabled with MCS, food allergy is another component of this debilitating illness. Early in the genetic engineering process we were promised many things with this technology. We were told: the genes would not cross through into our blood streams; we would be able to use less pesticides; and, there would be no allergies associated with the engineering. All these years down the line we now know none of these are true. One of the first problems to manifest was the allergy problem. Not only were people becoming sickened with the food product itself but the GE pollen became problematic in communities surrounding the fields. The other problems we have encountered are: plants are adapting causing an increase of toxic chemicals used on food products, not the decrease we were promised. Communities around these areas are suffering along with anyone ingesting the additional chemicals. Additionally the GE genes are crossing from our guts into our blood and collecting there and in our tissues. No one knows the outcome of this. We do know diseases and environmental illnesses are on the rise since the introduction of these foods and products. Now, more than ever, do we need to know what we are eating. Labeling will aid us in structuring the health and welfare of ourselves and families. We are prevailing upon our legislators for help doing so. Please support this bill. Our health and community depend on it. Thank you for your time.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 10:48 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Barb@punapono.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
barbara Cuttance	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this important bill, please pass HB174. 14/266 Papaya Farms Road, Paho, Hawaii 96778

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Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 12:14 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Gmofreenj@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Thomas	GMO Free NJ	Support	No

Comments: We support labeling of all foods that are sourced from transgenic or genetically engineered substances.

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Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 1:11 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: blawler76@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Beverly E. Lawler	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly urge the house to pass a bill which requires labeling any product containing GMO material sold in the state of Hawaii.

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Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 6:33 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: watsonblake8@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Blake Watson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Committee on Agriculture, I am a farmer and food landscape designer living on the Big Island. I am also a father, which is just about the most important reason for my concern that my son is being fed experimental GMO foods on occasion because there are no labels for these products. All the counties (besides Oahu) of the State for two years in a row have passed resolutions urging the State to label GM foods, as they do in 61 other countries, such as China and Russia-places supposedly less democratic than our country. Please help preserve our liberty to opt out of involuntarily eating foods that have been linked to many new food allergies, liver toxicity, sterility, and cancer...just to name a few. Lobbyists representing biotechnology companies will tell you that these foods are proven safe by "safety studies" that are voluntarily conducted by the same companies they represent. This is not real oversight over a system that is supposed to protect us, but that is what the FDA "requires" for oversight. It's a massive conflict of interest, and a sham. The FDA is bought out by biotech, quite obviously. Please look up Michael Taylor for one shining example. The Honolulu County Council recently rejected the wish by all the other Counties of the State of Hawaii to get a GMO label law passed this year by saying that "people who don't like GMO food can already avoid it by eating organic". This is a very irresponsible thing to say, when %75 of the food on grocery store shelves secretly contains GMO ingredients. Not to mention what public schools are feeding our keiki. Having the right to choose to not eat this stuff because of clear labeling is exactly the same thing as having the right to avoid ingredients we know we don't want to eat by simply looking at the ingredients on the package, something already well established and demanded by law. Those laws are there for very good reasons. One is liberty, and another is science, to name a couple. Finally, the argument is often posited that labeling GMO foods will "hurt the farmers". Well, actually an article that came out last month in the Hilo Tribune Herald (<http://hawaiiitribune-herald.com/sections/news/local-news/promising-papayas.html>) discusses Japanese consumption of GMO papaya , one year after the ban that Japan had on importing Hawaiian papaya for the last decade or so (due to safety concerns when the GMO Rainbow papaya was introduced). Apparently, in all of 2012, only 4500 lbs of GMO Rainbow papaya was sold to the Japanese market as a whole, as opposed to 1.3 million lbs of "non-gmo" papaya sold to Japan in the same year. Clearly, they don't want to eat much of it. And neither do many other countries. So GMO is actually bad for farmers in the long run. Reason? The market decides what it wants; we vote with our dollars. This is liberty and it should not be controversial at all to simply label what our food contains. Mahalo for your support of this Bill, Blake Watson (808)315-4007, Volcano, Hawaii References of the most recent publications showing evidence of risk Birth-defects and skeletal malformations: Antoniou M, Habib MEM, Howard CV, Jennings RC, Leifert C, et al. (2012) Teratogenic Effects of Glyphosate-Based Herbicides: Divergence of Regulatory Decisions from Scientific Evidence. J Environ Anal Toxicol S4:006.

doi:10.4172/2161-0525.S4-00 Cell death from exposure to Roundup: Martini, C.N. Matías Gabrielli, María del C. Vila. 2012. A commercial formulation of glyphosate inhibits proliferation and differentiation to adipocytes and induces apoptosis in 3T3-L1 fibroblasts. Toxicology in Vitro 26:1007–1013. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.tiv.2012.04.017> Liver and kidney toxicity: Séralini, G.-E., et al. Long term toxicity of a Roundup herbicide and a Roundup- tolerant genetically modified maize. Food Chem. Toxicol. (2012), <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.fct.2012.08.005> Other Reviews showing evidence of risk: American Academy of Environmental Medicine. 2009. Genetically Modified Foods. Testimony to Maui County Council, on September 29, 2009.

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3375 Koapaka Street, D-108
Honolulu, HI 96819

Phone: (808) 831-0811
Fax: (808) 831-0833

February 4, 2013
9:30 a.m.

Re: HB 174, Relating to Food Labeling

Dear Chair Wooley, Vice Chair Onishi and members of the House Agriculture Committee,

We appreciate the opportunity to testify on HB 174 and respectfully submit the following written testimony in opposition to the bill. Times Supermarket is based on Oahu and operates 26 stores with locations in Maui, Kauai and Oahu.

We applaud the desire to discuss in a public forum the important issue of food labeling and consumer information. We support accurate and non-misleading consumer information and appreciate the opportunity to express concerns about this measure.

HB 174, relating to food labeling, would require that any food or raw agricultural commodity sold in the State that contains or was produced with a genetically engineered material be labeled in not less than ten-point font with the words, "THIS PRODUCT CONTAINS A GENETICALLY ENGINEERED MATERIAL OR WAS PRODUCED WITH A GENETICALLY ENGINEERED MATERIAL."

On a practical level, and setting aside numerous other logistical concerns, grocery stores are unable to independently verify the veracity of the label proposed as to every product sold in our stores. We ask that you defer this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Bob Gutierrez
Director of Government Affairs, Times Supermarket

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 7:34 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: bobs@times-supermarket.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bob Stout	Times Supermarkets	Oppose	No

Comments: This same idea was defeated in California because of two reasons, no real proof behind it and the increase in grocery prices to consumers. This is a very expensive idea to execute at retail level and businesses would have to pass along the cost to consumers.

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Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 1:55 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: bobbibecker@mindspring.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
bobbie becker	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support the labeling of foods that contain genetically modified ingredients. We are only beginning to learn of the many health effects that these foods can bring about from research that is being done in Europe. Let Hawaii lead the way for our nation by demanding the labeling of genetically modified foods. Mahalo for considering my request.

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Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 5:26 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mauibrad@hotmail.com
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HB174

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brad Parsons	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: bpoprocker@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM
Attachments: 20111226_WOM593.gif

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brandon	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am writing to tell you that I strongly support GMO labeling on behalf of the people of Hawaii and its visitors, as of not labeling could lead to things getting really out of control. There is a reason 63 other counties now have GMO labeling! It is so important, just not for peoples health, but for the beautiful environment of Hawaii too. I will not visit unless this goes through. I will visit areas that have GMO labeling though when I go somewhere on vacation because I really want to know I have the choice. I believe the people who live there and who visit have a right when a food is genetically modified anywhere!

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Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 6:31 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: diamondbranchhi@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brendan Balthazar	Hawaii Cattlemens Assn.	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Cc: nyskyhi@gmail.com
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Submitted on: 2/3/2013

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Thornton	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: I am in support of labeling GMOS.

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Submitted on: 2/3/2013

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
C. Kong	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Be pono.

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Cjmellor626@yahoo.com
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Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cmellor	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Genetically modified organisms are not natural and make me very sick. Many people suffer from the ill effects. Please require labeling of GMO's to protect the health of all who are affected negatively by these substances. We need to know, we need the right to choose for ourselves. Please support GMO labeling!!

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 5:35 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: kaimanacd22@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Caren Diamond	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Testimony in Strong Support of HB 174 HOUSE BILL RELATING TO FOOD LABELING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE ALOHA CHAIR REP. JESSICA WOOLEY, CHAIR REP. RICHARD H.K. ONISHI, VICE CHAIR Please support HB 174. As a mother and grandmother, it is important we know what is in the foods we feed our families. Food is currently labeled for many things, and it is consistent to label genetically modified food. Food is even labeled to say it may have been made in a factory that processes nut. Food is simply labeled to let one know what is being consumed. Please support this measure so we have the right to know what is in the food we eat. Mahalo, Caren Diamond

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:12 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Chelseypags@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chelsey Paguirigan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 9:53 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: chrisrandolph55@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chris Randolph	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We the people of Hawai`i have a right to know what we are eating. It is our basic right to be informed consumers with the ability to choose what we put in our bodies. If there is nothing wrong with Genetically Modified Organisms why is there so much money being spent to keep consumers ignorant? Do what is pono for the people of Hawai`i. Stand above the pressures of a few elite companies that strive to oppress our rights, and ultimately compromise our health, in the name of greed. This is a basic choice about who you represent. Do you represent the 99% or the 1%? Do you represent Hawai`i's families trying to promote health? Or a few corporations who will compromise our health and environmental sustainability in the name of endless greed? Choose to make a stand for our basic rights to make informed decisions about the foods we eat and strive to protect our health.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 8:49 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: peepail@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christopher Kasak	Occupy Monsanto	Support	No

Comments: For years Monsanto has infiltrated our islands because of our year round planting and growing cycle. Unfortunately, what they are planting and growing is detrimental to the health of anyone that consumes it. Because of Monsanto's financial power, they succeed in "buying" state and federal politicians that regularly bend over forward for them and acquiesce to anything they say. This is evidenced by the fact that Monsanto's former attorneys, employees and okole kissers, head key government agencies. When we go to the market, many of us read labels to make sure that we buy that which we want to eat. There are, of course, many that do not care as evidenced by the obesity epidemic we are in the midst of. Yet, we all have that opportunity. We can check calories, sodium content, fat content, sugar content, etc. The one thing we cannot check is GMO content and that right to check GMO content is presently denied to more than 90% of Americans. And why? Because our genetically modified government does not require GMOs to be labeled. As a result, Americans are eating GMO foods without informed consent. What's worse is that the FDA, headed by former Monsanto employees, does not require independent safety testing of these ingredients. In fact, documents uncovered in litigation show that FDA scientists believe that GMO foods could pose serious risks and need stringent testing, but their administrative superiors overruled them. As a result, the FDA has a weak "voluntary consultation" process with biotech crop developers and relies entirely on whatever data the companies choose to disclose. The FDA does not even ascertain that GMO foods are safe, but defers to "industry assurances". The FDA's labeling policy rests on the antiquated doctrine that only changes in food that can be detected by taste, smell or other senses need to be labeled. Since GMO food differences cannot be sensed in this way, the FDA declared that GMO foods are not materially different from conventionally produced foods and no labeling is required. This policy is entirely inadequate to deal with the changes to food that can be triggered by genetic engineering. Potential hazards presented by GMO foods include the presence of unique toxins, elevated levels of native plant toxins, and reduced nutritional content, although it could take years or even generations, before the adverse effects of GMO foods are known with certainty. Despite industry rhetoric about miracle "super crops", the reality is that they are only "super" by their ability to withstand the endless spraying of toxic, cancer-causing herbicides (namely RoundUp Ready), thus producing an epidemic of herbicide-resistant weeds. Mandatory labeling would give consumers the ability to make an informed choice as to whether or not the foods they choose to consume were produced in a sustainable manner. For more than 10 years, federal GMO-labeling legislation has been introduced but has failed to pass. For more than 10 years no one in the federal government has chosen to bite the hand that feeds him or her. Maybe that's about to change. There are now 55 members of Congress that have signed a letter to support labeling of GMO products. Hawaii is one of 14 states that wants GMOs labeled and prides itself in being in the forefront of efforts to protect the

safety of our food and the health of our environment. Recently, the state of Vermont was a breath away from passing a GMO labeling bill when Monsanto said if they passed that bill they would sue the state of Vermont. The Governor of Vermont, like all the other spineless politicians, caved in and said that he would not burden the people of Vermont with this financial hardship and would kill the bill. Yet, the people of Vermont took a different stand and are banding together in telling the governor to allow the bill to pass and are in the process of raising funds to withstand Monsanto coercion. We, in Hawaii, are demanding that our state Legislature stop listening to the Monsanto lobbyists and instead listen to the people that elected them. Anything less would be a betrayal of the public's trust and our right to know how our food is produced. For those of you out there with similar issues, I present to you the following website when you can go to and read about the horrors of GMOs for yourself.
<http://www.scribd.com/doc/57277946/roundupandbirthdefectsv5> Aloha! Learn more:
http://www.naturalnews.com/035657_Hawaii_GMOs_food_labeling.html#ixzz2JxRCEyoR

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 1:25 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Claudiaimperato@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Claudia	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I am in favor of labeling food that uses GMO'S . Thank you.

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onishi1-Jerry

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Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 1:58 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: collardgreen@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Colleen Carswell	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Mahalo for your consideration of my testimony in SUPPORT of GMO labeling. As consumers, we have the right to know what we are eating, and make an informed decision as to whether or not we choose to eat GMOs.

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Aloha Representatives,

I strongly support HB174. I'm sure I speak for a lot of people here in Hawaii when I say that we have the right to know what's in our food. While special chemical company interests may claim that GM foods are safe and that it doesn't need a label, there has never been any science to prove their claims.

In addition many other countries have banned GM foods because it not only destroyed the health of that country but the environment as well.

I am in support of HB174. Please consider approving this bill

Mahalo
Cora Piliwale
Waianae, HI

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 5:53 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: corey@bigislanddairy.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
corey gillins	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 7:43 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: lotuslover@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM
Attachments: Labeling GMOs~HB 174.pdf

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
courtney Bruch	GMO Free Maui, GMO Free Oahu, GMO Free Big Island	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 4:07 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: cravegreens@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Crystal Thornburg	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I demand the right to know what is in my food. I believe that GMOs should be labeled, like all other items.

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onishi1-Jerry

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Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 7:29 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: dcskiven@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dan Knudsen	Individual	Support	No

Comments: To all it may concern. I myself and everybody on Kauai I have met so far, we all want label on food which is GMO food or contain any GMO products. We all want the possibility to choose what we eat ourselves and what we serve for our children, family and friends. Thank you for labeling GMO food. Kind regards Dan, Kamala and Emilia and all our friends.

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Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:07 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: djpro127@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Daniel Proctor	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: As an educator holding a degree in Environmental Studies I have researched genetic engineering and its effects extensively. The risks are enormous to say the least. So long as genetically engineered organisms/products will be allowed in our food supply, labeling them is the least we can do. The people have the right to know.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 6:03 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: earlewave@hawaiiintel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
danitza galvan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: All genetically modified foods and ingredients should have been labeled from the start, so this bill and other labeling initiatives to label GMO's are a priority, and should be heard and passed now. Sinderely, Danitza Galvan Puhi resident Kauai

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:30 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: dbicoy@molokairanch.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dathan Bicoy	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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HOUSE HEARING
Committee on Agriculture
Monday, February 4, 2013
9:30AM, Auditorium
State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

Testimony OPPOSING HB174
Requiring labeling of food and raw agricultural commodity produced with genetically engineered material

Aloha Chair Wooley, Vice Chair Onishi and Respected Committee Members:

I strongly oppose HB174.

It is logical to say that consumers would view *mandated* labeling of genetically modified products as a warning, as a "mandate" is most often associated with informing the consumer of a hazard.

When we identify what product the FDA *requires* to be labeled, we understand the purpose and intent of their labeling policy. The FDA requires a product to be labeled if the ingredient is a potential allergen, or somehow changes the nutritional properties of the food. These are meant to bring attention to things that could affect the consumer.

The FDA is resolute in its finding, based on good peer reviewed scientific evidence, that genetically modified (GM) crops do not differ from non-GM crops, and that products containing them do not have to be labeled. This is because no approved biotech crop is an allergen, or has any significant nutritional differences from non-GM counterparts. Thus there is no scientific evidence or reason to suggest that GM products cause harm or should be targeted and mandated to be labeled, according to FDA policy.

Lastly, the resultant consequences of passing a bill to label GM products would put a huge burden on our affected state regulatory agencies, put retailers at risk of frivolous lawsuits and inevitably increase costs to the consumer. Current voluntary labeling, for those who choose to label their product non-GM, is in wide spread use and very successful in providing a consumer choice as well as allow the producer to command a premium price point.

Our time, money and energy would be better spent on educating the public on agricultural co-existence, which will help our State identify real solutions for greater economic self sufficiency.

I humbly ask that you oppose HB174.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Bicoy
Community Affairs Manager
Monsanto Molokai

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 11:17 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: dean@oahuexpress.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM
Attachments: Petition-For-GMO-Free-Hawaii-and-GMO-labeling.xlsx

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dean Kalani Capelouto	People in Favor of GMO Labeling	Support	No

Comments: Attached are 4094 petition signatures and companies in favor of GMO labeling in Hawaii. Please accept this testimony of behalf of the people of State of Hawaii, others from the rest of the United States, and many others from countries around the world.

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Hawaii Farm Bureau
F E D E R A T I O N

2343 Rose Street • Honolulu, Hawaii 96819
Phone: (808) 848-2074 • Neighbor-Islands: (800) 482-1272
Fax: (808) 848-1921 • Email: info@hfbf.org
www.hfbf.org

February 4, 2013

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON HB 174
RELATING TO FOOD LABELING

Auditorium
9:30am

Chair Wooley, Vice Chair Onishi, and Members of the Committee:

I am Dean Okimoto, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation (HFBF). Organized since 1948, the HFBF is comprised of 1,950 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate, and advance the social, economic, and educational interest of our diverse agricultural community.

HFBF respectfully requests that you oppose HB 174 related to food labeling.

For many years, HFBF has come before the Legislature and advocated for keeping food labeling requirements at the federal level from a regulatory perspective. HFBF believes in the science that is guiding the FDA regarding the nutrition facts and ingredients information contained on US food labels. HFBF is confident in the FDA's ability to keep our food safe and believes that additional state or local food labeling requirements 1) will confuse consumers, 2) will be costly to implement, 3) will be very likely impossible to effectively enforce, and 4) will likely lead to increased local food costs for Hawaii consumers.

HFBF understands why telling food producers, food distributors, and grocery chains that "we the people" have a right to know what's in our food is so appealing. But the idea is problematic for several reasons, the least of which being that labels for GMO foods imply that there's something wrong with them, when according to the American Medical Association (AMA), World Health Organization, and National Academy of Science, there really isn't.

Also troubling is the fact that misleading the public about science often backfires. Inaccurate sensational political advocacy masquerading as science teaches the public to distrust scientists and wrongly doubt their conclusions. The same applies to teaching people to fear GMO foods without cause.

We humbly request that you oppose this measure. Thank you for this opportunity to provide our opinion on this important matter.

onishi1-Jerry

From: Derek Bickerton [derbick@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 10:27 PM
To: Rep. Jessica Wooley; AGRtestimony
Subject: HB 174

TO: Chairperson Representative Jessica Wooley:

Honorable Chairperson and Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of the passage of HB 174.

We have an inalienable right to know what we are eating. The issue is not whether genetically modified plants are or are not good for us (though there are excellent reasons for thinking the latter). It is whether we are going to be obliged to unknowingly eat foods that, if we had known what they were, we would have refused.. The only purpose of voting against HB 174 would be to maximize the profit of the producers of genetically modified foods. A vote against this bill, or any attempt to delay or prevent a vote on it, would therefore indicate that the voter put the narrow interests of a handful of people who mostly live out of state against the interests of all those who live in the state. As Hawaii residents for more than forty years, we hope that Hawaii will add to its many distinctions that of being the first state in the union to mandate the labeling of genetically modified foods.

Derek Bickerton
Yvonne Bickerton
68-244 Crozier Loop, Waialua, HI 96791

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 2:22 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: forebay444@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Doreen Virtue	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Right now, people are boycotting Hawaiian papaya because the majority of it is GMO and there is a big no-GMO boycott movement going on. Please get GMO out of Hawaii, OR please label all GMO containing fruits, vegetables, and products sold in Hawaii. Right now, it's tough to know which papaya's are GMO and which are non-GMO. So we end up buying NO papayas because we believe GMO is toxic to people's health. PLEASE label Papaya's which are GMO or non- GMO. Thank you for your time.

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onishi1-Jerry

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Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:14 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: surfjonz3@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
douglas godfrey	Individual	Support	No

Comments: i want to know what's in my food. thanks

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Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 8:23 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Edwardclark@taongaglass.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Edward Clark	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please let us have the knowledge of what our food is made of! I don't want to buy GMO food, as research has shown the negative affects of individuals consuming these crops, as well as the destruction of our farmlands as a result of GMO foods.

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I strongly support the labeling of GMO food. The people of Hawaii have the right to know what is in our food. GMO food means genetically modified organism. This food is not intrinsically the same as regular food as the biotech industry would like us to believe. By definition it is an organism that has been modified. The DNA of GMO food has been changed, its genes code for different traits from the original, its cells create different proteins, and it is not the same as regular food at all.

Genetically modified food has only been in our diets since about 1996. The long-term health effects of GMO's on humans has never been studied. In fact the EPA is offering research grants to look into the possible allergenic effects of novel proteins that are created through the process of DNA manipulation of GMO food. The EPA website clearly states that no studies have yet to be conducted on this. We are all part of an experiment that presently has no government oversight. We must demand to know what we are eating. Labeling GMO should not even be a question. I strongly support the labeling of all GMO food.

Elijah Frank
Kauai

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 9:25 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: elijahmcdaniel@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elijah McDanniel	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Everything we eat should be labeled. If its veggies or fruits the types of pesticides used should even be labeled if they are not organic. GMO SHOULD DEFINITELY BE LABELED AS WELL.

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Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elisabeth Bluml	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I'm worried about my health and my loved ones health. I have a child so I have future generation to worry about. It's the future of food and our right to choose. Mahalo, Elisabeth Bluml

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Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 9:46 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: elizabethcleary21@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elizabeth Cleary	Individual	Support	No

Comments: If there is nothing wrong with GMOs what is the big deal with labeling food that has been modified? Why is there such opposition to this request? People have a right to know what is in the food they are buying.

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: cptspeedo@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eric Hayden	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Sirs, As a taxpaying citizen I do believe we need to demand gmo food labelling just like we any ingredients have been displayed for years.

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Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 8:03 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: akamaimom@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Felicia Cowden	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This is very important. I strongly support the need to label our food. The bio-tech industry would not fight this labeling so desperately if they believed the food was beneficial. I am willing to pay higher prices on foods if I still want to buy these items. In all reality, I will do my very best to steer away from any food with these contents. I find myself accidentally still buying foods at health food stores that I presume to be organic, but discover upon close inspection, they are not. I don't want my family eating any of this stuff. Please support HB174.

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Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 7:21 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: ghanagami@palamameat.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gary Hanagami		Oppose	No

Comments: Please be advised that we strongly oppose HB174 as it pertains to GMO labeling. The bill is cannot be enforced on the State level, regardless of the intent by the legislator. As a manufacturer of meat products that over \$9MM in products, our raw material purchases are insignificant and it would be nearly impossible for our request for GMO information to be provided on ours or the State's level. This is clearly within the kulia of the Federal government who can impose its will on raw material suppliers. Please vote "No" on this bill. Mahalo.

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Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 8:22 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: gfkonanui@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gladys Konanui	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha mai..... I support HB174..please pass HB174. mahalo

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2/2/13 Testimony from: Kauai County Councilmember Gary Hooser

Re: H174 Agriculture; Genetically Engineered Food Products; Labeling

Hearing: Monday February 4, 2013 9:30am Committee on Agriculture

Position: Strong Support –

My name is Gary Hooser, I am an elected member of the Kauai County Council and am speaking today on my own behalf as an individual, however it is important to point out that Kauai, Maui and Hawaii County Councils have all passed Resolutions in support of mandatory labeling of GMO products.

I am testifying today in strong support of HB174 which requires specific labeling for any food or raw agricultural commodity sold in the State that contains or was produced with genetically modified material.

It is important to point out that many nations around the world already require labeling of GMO products and that major U.S. grocery retailers are also now supporting national labeling requirements. Passage of HB174 will add further momentum to the national movement to label and Hawaii can be a leader in this effort.

There are many reasons to support labeling but the core principle is that people have the right to know and the right to choose what they are buying and what they are consuming.

Some consumers are very concerned about possible health implications of consuming GMO foods. Without question the level of sensitivity to chemicals and food allergens vary tremendously from person to person and without labeling, people are unable to make informed choices. Though there have many numerous studies on the health impacts of consuming GMO products, few of these studies have been conducted by independent researchers focusing on the long term impacts on humans, specifically children and pregnant women.

Other consumers are equally concerned about the moral, ethical and political implications of buying GMO products and they also deserve the right to know and choose. These concerns include;

- The environmental and social consequences caused by the commercialization and patenting of new life forms is far reaching, yet largely unknown.
- The globalization and ownership of the world food supply by a handful of multi-national companies is detrimental to food sovereignty, and threatens the very foundation of traditional agrarian communities.
- The reduction of bio-diversity caused by the concentrations of a single dominant species developed through genetic modification will ultimately weaken the species, and cause yet unknown impacts to related species.

- The transgenic foods created when crossing animal and plant genes have impacts to those whose vegetarian diet may be based on religion or culture.
- Locally, the explosive growth of the GMO industry has driven up the cost of farm land to the detriment of farmers who actually grow food for local consumption.

Most of the debate on the GMO labeling issue is focused on the health implications and/or the claim by GMO companies that the GMO Foods are “substantially equivalent” and thus should not be labeled. However, there are precedents in law for additional reasons to mandate labeling of food items including “Dolphin Safe” labeling laws which were enacted for environmental protection reasons.

For these reasons combined with the health and diet implications, myself and many other consumers believe we should be able to choose whether or not we would like to purchase and consume these products.

It is governments’ role and fundamental responsibility to protect the health and welfare of the people and of the aina. There is no question that more and more people are trying to take back control of their diets and to make better choices with regards to the foods that they consume.

I strongly urge this committee to unanimously pass out HB174 and to support the right of the people of Hawaii to know what is in the food they are consuming and to make informed choices based upon whatever reason they choose to.

Respectfully,

Gary Hooser
Councilmember
Kauai County

Feb. 4, 2013

To: Agriculture Committee Representatives

RE: HB174, SUPPORT

RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB174

My name is Hector Valenzuela, and I have been a professor and a Crop Production Specialist at the University of Hawaii-Manoa for over 20 years. However, I write this testimony on a personal and private capacity.

This testimony is to respectfully request that you support bill HB174. Local GMO products exported from Hawaii to Japan are already labeled, and according to Industry members, the cost and labor to conduct this labeling is minimal.

A growing number of refereed scientific studies have raised evidence of health, environmental, and social risks from the field production and consumption of GM foods. Despite statements by Industry and by its UH academic supporters, none of the studies that have raised evidence of risk, have been properly invalidated, nor replicated.

Because of the considerable scientific documentation of potential risk, including evidence of liver and kidney toxicity, birth defects, and endocrine disruption—from the consumption of GM crops, or from exposure to residues of pesticides used to grow GM crops, the public is claiming for the right to know, and for the right to chose the type of food that it consumes.

I am thus writing in support of Bill HB174.

Thank-you for your consideration.

Hector Valenzuela, Ph.D.
94-1070 Anania Cr. No. 107
Mililani, HI 96789
hectoruh@yahoo.com
Tel. 808-625-1277

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References of the most recent publications showing evidence of risk

Birth-defects and skeletal malformations:

Antoniou M, Habib MEM, Howard CV, Jennings RC, Leifert C, et al. (2012) Teratogenic Effects of Glyphosate-Based Herbicides: Divergence of Regulatory Decisions from Scientific Evidence. *J Environ Anal Toxicol* S4:006. doi:10.4172/2161-0525.S4-00

Cell death from exposure to Roundup:

Martini, C.N. Matías Gabrielli, María del C. Vila. 2012. A commercial formulation of glyphosate inhibits proliferation and differentiation to adipocytes and induces apoptosis in 3T3-L1 fibroblasts. *Toxicology in Vitro* 26:1007–1013. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.tiv.2012.04.017>

Liver and kidney toxicity:

Séralini, G.-E., et al. Long term toxicity of a Roundup herbicide and a Roundup-tolerant genetically modified maize. *Food Chem. Toxicol.* (2012), <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.fct.2012.08.005>

Other Reviews showing evidence of risk:

American Academy of Environmental Medicine. 2009. Genetically Modified Foods. Testimony to Maui County Council, on September 29, 2009.

Antoniou, et al. 2011. Roundup and birth defects Is the public being kept in the dark? *Earth Open Source*. June 2011. 52 pp.

Dona, A., and Arvanitoyannis, IS. 2009. Critical Reviews in Food Science and Nutrition. Health Risks of Genetically Modified Foods. 49:164–175 (2009)

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 11:02 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: jackadamweber@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jack Weber	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am a physician here in Hawaii and in California and strongly support the labeling of GMO products. I recommend non-GMO diets to my patients and have seen the science to back up my concern that GMOs cause adverse health effects. I have also heard from many who have cut GMO products out of their diets and resolved allergies and weight gain. Additionally, the increased use of Round-Up and the built-in Bt-toxin in Bt-variety GMO crops causes degradation of our environment; we cannot afford to jeopardize the natural environment that is the heart of the traditional way of life here in Hawaii and for which tourists come from far and wide to enjoy and to heal. I strongly support a GMO labeling measure in Hawaii. We all have a right to know. Prop 37, the legislation for GMO labeling in California narrowly lost in November by only a few (3) percentage points, demonstrating that GMO labeling is going mainstream. Let's be progressive and smart about this and create GMO labeling here in Hawaii to demonstrate our care for our health and the environment and sustainable traditional farming. Thank you for your consideration and reading my testimony. Jack A. Weber, L.Ac., Dipl. C.H., Dipl. A.C.

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Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 8:25 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: jalna.keala2@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM
Attachments: HB174GMO labelling.doc

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jalna Keala	Assn. of Hawaiian Civic Clubs	Support	No

Comments: Unable to attend hearing. Sorry for late testimony.

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: jmccay@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James McCay	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha! I strongly support this bill HB 174 and hope you will help empower Hawai'i to lead the nation. I want to know what is in my food, as should everyone. Mahalo and Malama Pono, James McCay 2957 Kalakaua Ave, Honolulu HI 96815

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Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 11:19 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: jtrujill@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
james trujillo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: please accept this testimony in support of HB174 & GMO labeling for food and ag products. labeling provides consumers with additional information about ingrediants or processes used in the manufacture or production of food products. please help consumers be informed about what they purchase. labeling helps consumers avoid purchasing products they don't want and assists them in purchasing the ones they do. mahalo for considering this testimony and for your support of HB 174

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Cc: virtual@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Zampathas	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We all deserve the right to choose. LABEL all Additives in food. Natural is not acceptable. Food with GMO's should be labeled, as such.

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Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 10:43 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: haleiwajane@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jane Duncan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Yes! I enthusiastically and absolutely support labeling of GMO foods!. As a consumer, I think that American citizens have the right to know and choose what that feed themselves and their families. As representatives of the people, I believe that you have the responsibility to uphold this right and be the voice of the people. Respectfully submitted.

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Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 8:33 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: jasonmoniz73@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jason & Jeri Ann Moniz, KK Ranch	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: We strongly oppose this Bill!

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Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 4:25 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: pumehana11@msn.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeanette Baysa	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: There still isn't proof that GMO foods are a health hazard. The state should stay out of food labeling, it's the federal govt responsibility. Why spend more money on changing labels for 80% of our food when it more cost effective and easier to add a GMO free label for those who have the money to afford higher priced food? Please don't let this bill pass. It is already hard enough to make ends meet.

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: happynowc@aim.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeanna Cox	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hello, I am writing in support of this bill. It is very important to me to avoid foods containing GMO ingredients because I want to eat foods that are pure and organic and good for my body. I don't know what effects foods that contain GMO's have, but I know that they have not been tested like they should be before given to humans for consumption. I know they have the ability to trigger negative responses in my genes and "turn on" dormant genes that would not be turned on otherwise. We all have a right to know what is in our food and to have pure food that will nourish our bodies, not make us sick or have negative consequences. I know GMO's are in at least 80% of the food available. Europe passed a law to lable GMO foods and now people have the choice to eat them or avoid them. Not surprisingly sales of GMO labeled foods drastically went down. Most everyone avoids them in Europe. If they are labeled more people will have an awareness of them, what they are eating and what they want to avoid. We have the right to know what is in our food!! Please represent the people's wishes to LABEL GMO's! Thank you very much. Jeanna Cox

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Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 3:51 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: jsacher@kona.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeff Sacher	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To:
Chair and Members
House Agriculture Committee

From:
Jeffrey Parker
President, Tropical Orchid Farm, Inc.
P.O. Box 170
Haiku, HI 96708
808 572-8569

Subject: HB174
Hearing Feb 4, 2012 9:30 am

Position: Support

Dear Chair Wooley and Members,

I support measures that would require labeling of genetically-modified foods and commodities.

Whether or not you believe in the safety of these new substances (I do not), it is a matter of fairness for the purveyors to be required to disclose what they are doing.

People, without time or money to lobby the Legislature, have a right to know what is in their food.

Farmers, who strive to produce healthy foods by conventional methods, and who are working to prevent cross-contamination of their crops by GM crops, deserve to be on a level playing field with the mega-corporations.

Mega biotech corporations have as their goal total domination of the World's food supplies and control of agriculture through seed control and lawsuits aimed at conventional farmers whose fields have been cross-contaminated by their GMO crops.

I believe that the biotech industry has been given far too much assistance by the Hawaii government, and the influence (money) that the biotech industry has within the University of Hawaii is shameful, in my opinion.

Given the above, we should at least take this modest step of labeling – in the interest of leveling the playing field. If the biotech industry thinks their products are wonderful for mankind, they should be required to proclaim it on a label.

Mahalo for your consideration

Jeffrey Parker
Pres, Tropical Orchid Farm, Inc.

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 9:33 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: giehni@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Bonifacio	Individual	Support	No

Comments: All foods containing anything GMO should be labeled. I want to know if the food I'm buying contains anything that is genetically modified. If all ingredients must be labeled, it's not that difficult to add if it were genetically modified.

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Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 7:42 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: jbeansprout@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Odegard	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this bill. It is our right as consumers to know what we are eating. GMO technology has not been rigorously tested and it has not passed the test of time. We, the populace, beg you to allow us to make our own choices regarding what we eat!

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Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:14 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: jar3@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM
Attachments: HB174.wps

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Rodriguez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 11:32 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: princess_jerne@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jerne' Willis	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Aloha. I am a new mother who did not know what gmo stood for through my whole pregnancy and after giving birth (unfortunately). I was introduced to what this "was" and have been further investigating and educating myself on this topic ever since. I believe it is everyones kuleana to educate themseves and others on the extremly negative impacts gmos are having on our bodies and on our planet. Everything (70%+) from pasta, bread, fruits, vegetables, cake mixes, ice cream, chips, cereal, meat (gmo feed), pizzas, pies, you name it, contains gmos. I am now scared to buy "regular" food and have switched to shopping more local and organic (which is better for us all). If we cannot completely eradicate gmos all together we definitely need to give people a choice! If they want to eat items containing genetically modified ingredients. I believe the labeling of consumer goods is a start. Every consumer SHOULD have a right to know what they are spending their very hard earned dollars on. Nobody likes secrets, especially when it comes to what you are feeding your family. Is it real or fake? Every dollar really does count when it comes to grocery shopping, especially here in Hawaii. Instead of being (somewhat) food independant, we are importing all of our foods and poisoning the aina, growing seed corn on our ag land. I have no idea why? This does not make sense to me. This is not sustainable in any way! What I eat, my son eats, and I would NEVER want to put something on his plate which I thought could potentially harm him in any way over a period of time. No one knows the long-term affect genetically modified food has on the human body. I can tell you one thing, it is NOT natural. More and more information is being obtained everyday and the impacts gmos have on the land, precious resources, and people are detrimental. We dont even KNOW the affects this may have, they are basically experimenting on us and it is all okay? Not with me. We must change our actions before it is too late. GMO's need to be labeled because it is not fair to the consumer that everything is in the label except if it is real or made in a lab, which over half of our food is but we dont know it because it is not labeled. Foods can even be labeled "all natural" and contain gmos or man made ingrediant (nature valley granola bars.....and many more). Thats messed up! Everyone should have a right to choose. Having "may contain gmos" on packaging is the only clear obvious way to tell. The only reason this isn't passing rapidly in every state and county is because of the money people are getting paid to fight this. You cannot eat money, this is affecting EVERYONE. Everyone eats. No one is immune. You yourself are eating poisons and DONE EVEN KNOW IT! It is nearly impossible to avoid gmos completely, but labeling is the next step that needs to be taken. I mean, for the peoples sake, for future generations that may have hair growing out of their gums due to mutated dna. This is like a sci fi movie gone bad, but its real life. This is happening and if your not concerned, you should be. Chemicals, pesticides, poisons and genetically modified organisms are what is happening to everyones food supply, they are taking over. If it is labeled no one will buy it and support these chemical companies. Have you ever asked yourself why chemical companies are growing our food?

Who has the answer? Their food is NOT food I want to eat or feed my baby. I dont even know if I would feed it to my worst enemy. Right now other states are taking initiative and voting in favor of the people. To label gmos, for a right to know. Hawaii needs to follow in their footsteps and be another example. Look past the money and power, because that is what it boils down to and think about all the people who are scared for their families health and how important this bill is to them. I am one of them, and you should be too. All labeling will do is give people a choice. I am begging you to Please Please Please vote in favor of HB174 to label gmos in Hawaii, stand up for the people, malama aina. Everyone deserves a right to know what is in their food! Mahalo.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:20 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: jackerman@queens.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jessica Ackerman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:17 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: jimmygomes@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jimmy Gomes	Ulupalakua Ranch Inc.	Oppose	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:34 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: farberj@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM
Attachments: testimony supporting HB 174.docx

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
joe farber	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<u>COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE</u>
Rep. Jessica Wooley, Chair
Rep. Richard H.K. Onishi, Vice Chair

HB 174 SUPPORT

Aloha Chair Wooley and members of the committee, my name is Joel Guy and I flew over from Kauai to show my strong support for HB 174.

I first want to thank you chair for hearing this bill. It is so important that we allow a bill like this to be heard so we can be crystal clear where we all stand on this issue, thank you.

I want to encourage you to pass this bill out of your committee without amendments, unless adding the "labeling of seeds" as an additional requirement. I think we need to make sure small farmers that sell products at farmers markets know if the seeds they purchase are genetically engineered.

In closing I want to say It is an honor to be a small part of this monumental time when policy makers get to take steps that truly give the power to the people. This bill will allow us to make educated decisions on what type of food we want to feed our families.

Thank you again,

Joel Guy
Hanalei, Kauai

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 12:03 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: kanakaukoa@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Lyle	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As consumers every one of us needs to know as much as possible about the food we eat and feed to our kids. This legislation is the kind of thing I want to see more of. Let people know what is in their food! Thank you, John Lyle

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 7:41 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: jdancer@kula.us
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
john NAYLOR	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Just Label it ! The People you represent deserve a choice!

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Dear Legislative Committee,

I am writing to you on the upcoming bill 174 regarding the labeling of GMO products. I urge you to not pass this law because of the many unintended consequences it will have on Hawaii's agriculture and food sustainability. GMO has been studied multiple times and have consistently been show to be safe. Science has shown that there is no significant dangers to GMO and yet the supporters of this bill continue to push their anti-science stance on the general public.

The very person who started the anti-GMO movement, Mark Lynas, has recently recanted and apologized on his past actions to start the movement. He actknwledged that he did not not his own academic research on GMOs before he took his stance against it. Here is an excerpt of what he stated.

"But most important of all, farmers should be free to choose what kind of technologies they want to adopt. If you think the old ways are the best, that's fine. You have that right.

What you don't have the right to do is to stand in the way of others who hope and strive for ways of doing things differently, and hopefully better. Farmers who understand the pressures of a growing population and a warming world. Who understand that yields per hectare are the most important environmental metric. And who understand that technology never stops developing, and that even the fridge and the humble potato were new and scary once.

So my message to the anti-GM lobby, from the ranks of the British aristocrats and celebrity chefs to the US foodies to the peasant groups of India is this. You are entitled to your views. But you must know by now that they are not supported by science. We are coming to a crunch point, and for the sake of both people and the planet, now is the time for you to get out of the way and let the rest of us get on with feeding the world sustainably."

I indeed hope that you as or Hawaii leaders consider that first and foremost, science must become the basis of the future laws we create to ensure a sustainable food supply in our islands.

Aloha,

Joni Kamiya, MS

Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i

State Democratic Headquarters ♦ 1050 Ala Moana Boulevard, Ste 221 ♦ Honolulu, Hawai'i, 96814
(808) 596-2980 ♦ <http://EnvironmentalCaucusoftheDemocraticPartyofHawaii.com>

February 4, 2013

Testimony in Support of House Bill 174

Aloha Chairperson Jessica Wooley and Vice Chair Richard H.K. Onishi and members of the House Agricultural Committee,

My name is Mrs. Juanita Brown Kawamoto, Subcommittee Chair of Food and Farm Sustainability of the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii, Executive Board member at Large and a Native Hawaiian citizen advocate.

I am here to testify in strong support of HB 174 – Relating to Food Labelling. The ECDPH and the DPH support the need for food labeling as reflected in our current 2012 DPH State convention resolutions and ECDPH past testimony requesting the support for assistance to the Department of Agriculture in the monitoring of local food production.

The focus of the world food supply needs to shift from its current focus on generic food ingredient labeling to what has been adopted in other parts of our nation and across the world specifically regarding genetically modified or genetically engineered materials (GMO) in whole food labeling. Hawaii must support our right to know, protect our health, and not give in to Anti-labeling proponents that claim it is too expensive to label. The solution could be as simple as a sticker. Hawaii could have an import rule for manufacturers to state whether their product is intended to be GMO or GMO free, and whether it has been tested. Even the smallest producers would not be hindered with use of an additive sticker method, so there is no economic stumbling block for even the smallest mom and pop operation to sell products in Hawaii. No labeling only benefits the producers, both in terms of profit and plausible deniability. If we do not label it, we cannot track it; if we cannot track it, we cannot prove or disprove it was responsible for food allergies or illnesses. Not labeling GMO's harms Hawaiian agriculture. The Hawaii papaya growers have not had to notify Hawaii's consumers about the GMO status of their papayas. Why should Japan know if their papaya is GMO and Hawaiians not have access to this information? We are only hurting ourselves, and the long term viability of valuable agricultural crops.

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii strongly supports GMO labeling and HB 174.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

**Mrs. Juanita Brown Kawamoto
Subcommittee Chair
Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii**

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 4:18 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: judie@aloha.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Judie Hoepfner	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We have a right to know what is in the food we eat and give to our children. It is critically important that GMO's be labeled. Thank you for ensuring that the public knows what they are eating.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 11:03 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: judylotusheart@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Judy Levy	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I feel VERY STRONGLY that we must LEGISLATE to LABEL GMO FOODS!! Please do the right thing and let's take care of our people, not the bio tech companies that seem to not care about our health. I CARE ABOUT MY HEALTH & that of my kids and grandchildren and friends. I've gotten sick from GMO wheat and other products. I don't want to buy them, so MUST KNOW IF THEY CONTAIN ANY GMO's. Thank you! Judy Levy, Haiku

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onishi1-Jerry

From: Julia Pace [julia.pace@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 6:58 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Subject: HB 174

Honorable Chairperson and Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of the passage of HB 174.

I am an RN whose life has been spent in support of good health. I do not want to eat GMO. I don't want my patients to eat GMO. Please label.

We have a right to know.

I strongly support passage of this bill for the following reasons:

1. Under the National Organic Program, genetic modification (GM) is not approved for use in the production of organic foodstuffs. The production of GM foods presents the risk of contamination in the growing, processing and handling of foodstuffs and thus GM foods pose an economic threat to organic agriculture and farming which is a fast growing sector of Hawaii's economy.

2. Food production should be moving towards more sustainable methods of agriculture, food and farming (i.e. not using harmful chemicals such as insecticides, herbicides, chemical fertilizers etc.) that respect Hawaii's unique ecosystem and drawing on knowledge from traditional Hawaiian agricultural practices. GM foods are moving in the opposite direction and result in increased chemical use in the production of food.

3. Consumers have the right to know whether the foods they eat are produced using genetic modification techniques; the overwhelming majority of consumers want to know whether the foods they consume are genetically modified or not.

4. There are unknown human health and environmental risks associated with genetically modified foods. Without labeling consumers will be unable to identify genetically modified foods and won't know if they are consuming them or not.

Please vote in favor of HB 174.

Sincerely,
Julia Pace
1561 Pensacola
Honolulu, Hi 96822

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 9:39 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: julia@hanahou.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Julia Steele	Individual	Support	No

Comments: It is in the broad public interest to know how the food that we all consume has been created. For this reason, I urge you to enact legislation that will label foods that contain GMO ingredients. Hawaii has long been a place where the government has recognized and respected the rights of its people. The days of the Big Five are behind us. Let's continue to put the rights of the people first: in this case, the right to know just what exactly we're putting into our and our children's bodies.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 9:54 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: 77coconuts@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kahala Lei Azuma Maui	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Watch www.geneticroullettemovie.com and you tell me that you don't want to know what you're feeding your kids. GMO's cause me digestive failure and half of my digestive system. I need to know what I am buying. Long term medical conditions as a result of a reckless government, costs more than labelling food correctly. To not label these deadly chemicals is genocide of a nation.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 10:09 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: punakalo@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kaleo Franciscoco	Hoai Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 6:34 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Kallygos@mac.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kally Goschke	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Please, we need to know what we are eating. Support this bill. We have a right to know.
Thank you Kally Goschke

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 7:59 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: zoogieone@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karen Brandon	Individual		No

Comments: I want GMOs to be labeled

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 7:34 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: krzymurray@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karen Murray	Individual	Support	No

Comments: In support of labeling, should have been done long ago.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:21 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: islandket@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
karen Wiley	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this. We must be able to know what we are eating. !

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 7:58 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: karly.williams@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karly Williams	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 6:45 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Kaosreigns09@aim.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM
Attachments: GMOTestimony.abw

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kat Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments: GMO's should be BANNED and until they are, they MUST BE LABELED. They're banned in other countries, why are they LEGAL at all here?! People behind gmo foods have sold their souls and OUR HEALTHS out for dirty dollars. God forgive them.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:55 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: orrk001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM
Attachments: testimony on HB 174.rtf

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Katherine Orr	Individual	Support	No

Comments: copy of testimony: Testimony on HB 174, Labeling GMO We have a right to know the condition and source of our food. GE produce cannot be identified by vision, taste, touch, or smell, nevertheless, they are significantly different from their natural forms. We know this because many crops have been successfully patented. One cannot obtain a patent on something that is not substantially different from its natural form, therefore, the argument that GE foods are safe because they're no different from their natural counterparts is groundless. There is ample evidence that GE foods and the biocides associated with them (which are absorbed by them) have harmed mammals, both livestock and experimental animals. Why should we assume humans, which are mammals, are exempt from the known activities of glyphosate (just one example) which is abundant in most GE crops. Our right to know which foods are GE has been fought all the way by the industries that make them, yet only by labeling these foods and tracking their consumption can we begin to see if GE foods harm human health over time. Without labeling, there is no traceability. If there is harm, those corporations who own the patents must be held accountable for damages. The burden of labeling must come from the companies who own the foods; it is not up to the rest of us to prove which foods are not GE. Labeling allows us to choose which agricultural methods we want to support or boycott. Genetically modified foods are one piece of a larger picture that involves the way we grow food and it's ramifications on our land, soils, culture, and economy. The industrial, petrochemical-based industry that gave birth to GE foods is destructive on many fronts: it cannot coexist alongside organic farming methods and crops (due to pollen and chemical drift); it indentures farmers by forcing them to pay royalties on seeds they no longer own, often forcing farmers to lose their land, even driving them to suicide; it is unsustainable and destructive in terms of the ever-increasing use of chemicals to combat ever-increasingly resistant weeds and pests. I choose to boycott this industry in favor of better ways of growing food – ways proven to nourish our lands, promote physical health, economic health and cultural health – methods that are sustainable and actually more productive in terms of food production. Katherine Orr

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 7:59 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: keith@keithkessler.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keith Kessler	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this bill and it is a key issue for me. The safety of food produced from Genetically Engineered and/or Genetically Modified Organisms is still a scientifically open question. Many reports of adverse effects have just started to emerge, as has evidence of a concerted cover-up of this negative information. It is clear that the FDA cannot be trusted to regulate GMO safety, as a number of FDA officials are former Monsanto executives. I have a right to know what is on my plate and so do you. I am not saying that we should ban GMO foodstuffs, but that Hawai'i's citizens have a right to know what is on the shelves at the market so we can make up our own minds if we want to risk putting GMO foods into our bodies, and whether or not we want to feed this stuff to our keiki. As things presently stand, we are being denied the information we need to make an informed decision. If Monsanto et. al.'s products are so wholesome, then why aren't they supporting mandatory labeling? If their products are truly superior, wouldn't they want us all to know so we would be sure to choose them when at the market. The very fact that the GMO industry is so opposed to labeling makes me suspicious. Please pass this law and give me the information I need to make a free choice. Keith Kessler Kihei

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February 4, 2013

To: Chair Wooley, Vice Chair Onishi and members of the Committee

From: Keith Turner, Director of Public and Government Affairs

Re: HOUSE BILL 174, RELATING TO FOOD LABELING

I am writing on behalf of Safeway to respectfully oppose HB 174 relating to food labeling. Our company operates 20 stores throughout Hawaii – of which 14 are on the island of Oahu.

HB 174, relating to food labeling, would require that any food or raw agricultural commodity sold in the State that contains or was produced with a genetically engineered material be labeled in not less than ten-point font with the words, "THIS PRODUCT CONTAINS A GENETICALLY ENGINEERED MATERIAL OR WAS PRODUCED WITH A GENETICALLY ENGINEERED MATERIAL." On a practical level, and setting aside serious logistical concerns, grocery stores are unable to independently verify the veracity of the label proposed for products sold in our stores. We ask that you defer this measure.

Sincerely,

Keith Turner
Director of Public and Government Affairs

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 2:51 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: kaimiunger@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keith Unger	McCandless Ranch	Oppose	No

Comments: McCandless Ranch strongly opposes HB 174. All food labeling initiatives should be market driven and not mandated by regulation and legislation. More regulation equates to more expense to the producer, moving Hawaii farther from it's goal of food self-sufficiency.

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Friday, February 3, 2013

AGRICULTURE

415 South Beretania Street, State Capitol

Re: Support for HB174

Chair Jessica Wooley, Vice Chair Richard H.K. Onishi and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of Bill HB174 Relating to food labeling

As technology has helped man to expand and grow in comfort and sophistication, it has also pushed us into the limits of our natural resources. Now that we have become dependent on giant monocultures, our way of life has become a race to produce massive amounts of food, at accelerated speeds half way across the world to satisfy our growing demand. This demand has also had our scientists busy developing ways to insert foreign species dna into our foods. As an octopus gene may help extend the shelf life of our beautiful, red tomatos, there are no proven facts that confirm a tomato octopus hybrid is completely safe for human consumption. All though there have been no real catastrophic problems with them, as far as a food epidemics goes. GMOs still play a very integral role in how we process our food and it must be made public via labeling.

Back in the days where a farmer would give the milk man a basket of milk and he'd deliver it to the towns peoples doors, we didn't have to worry about labeling our food. We didn't have to worry because we knew, if we had a liquid delivered, that was white in a glass. It was milk. We could trust where it came from. Now, with the huge spike in population and the resulting technology over compensation. We have hormones, antibiotics, pesticides and GMOs in our milk, just to keep up with our massive demand. Although, I do understand the need to produce larger amounts of food, faster as less and less companies control most of the worlds food supply. I still don't think that is the way it should be. I strongly believe by labeling GMOs, the public will be more self aware and be more inclined to support local farmers. I also believe that if every food company was forced to disclose which of their products have been genetically modified, people will start being more proactive environmentally as well. This is another one of those situations where times has changed and now labeling peanut butter with "Contains: Oil, Nuts, Sugar. Isn't good enough. Now we have different genes within those nuts and we will not have ever know, unless this gets passed. It is there and it is going into our systems, we deserve the right to know. Thank you again for hearing my position on BillHB174 relating to food labeling and I hope you want to see whats in your food as bad as I do. Mahalo.

onishi1-Jerry

From: Kelly Perry [hunakai5@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 7:19 AM
To: Rep. Jessica Wooley; AGRtestimony
Subject: HB 174

Honorable Chairperson and Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of the passage of HB 174.

I care deeply about this issue as a lifetime resident of an Agricultural Community (Waialua), parent of 3 children, and consumer who wants to know how their food is produced.

I strongly support passage of this bill for the following reasons:

1. Under the National Organic Program, genetic modification (GM) is not approved for use in the production of organic foodstuffs. The production of GM foods presents the risk of contamination in the growing, processing and handling of foodstuffs and thus GM foods pose an economic threat to organic agriculture and farming which is a fast growing sector of Hawaii's economy.
2. Food production should be moving towards more sustainable methods of agriculture, food and farming (i.e. not using harmful chemicals such as insecticides, herbicides, chemical fertilizers etc.) that respect Hawaii's unique ecosystem and drawing on knowledge from traditional Hawaiian agricultural practices. GM foods are moving in the opposite direction and result in increased chemical use in the production of food.
3. Consumers have the right to know whether the foods they eat are produced using genetic modification techniques; the overwhelming majority of consumers want to know whether the foods they consume are genetically modified or not.
4. There are unknown human health and environmental risks associated with genetically modified foods. Without labeling consumers will be unable to identify genetically modified foods and won't know if they are consuming them or not.

Please vote in favor of HB 174.

Sincerely and Mahalo for your thoughtful attention to these concerns,

Kelly Perry
68-056 Laau Paina Pl. Waialua, HI 96791
hunakai5@aol.com

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 9:17 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Kellytsutsui@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kelly Tsutsui	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha & mahalo for addressing this very needed issue. As a wife and mother of two I want the right to know what I am feeding my family. I know exactly what is in the fuel I put in my car so why can't I know what is in the fuel " food" I put in my body and feed to my children. If the GMO's are so wonderful and good for us they should want us to know so we can buy more of their products. They know that is not the case and have gotten away with using us, the American people, as guinea pigs for the last 20 years. I am asking for my right to know what I am eating so I can choose to be in their experiment. Thank you for your time and support of this measure HB174. Kelly T Haleiwa, Hawaii

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 8:02 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: kenjibiz@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM
Attachments: GMOLabling.txt

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ken Griffen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 1:49 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: lance.duncan@live.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lance Duncan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support the labeling of all foods for human consumption with their GMO content, including GMO Free.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 8:32 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Laurie@honoluluweekly.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laurie Carlson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support bill 174

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 7:23 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: lhome12@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Linda Horne	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Aloha Legislators,

With respect to health issues of foods our key regulator, the FDA, has given a statement that they believe GMO's are substantially equivalent to foods products of corresponding non-GMO plants. As a scientist I am trained to search for facts and studies not opinions. The FDA's GMO food position is mere opinion, not based on scientific evidence. In fact Monsanto's chief medical officer, Dr Daniel Goldstein, stated before the Maui Medical Society several years ago that safety evidence could never be obtained..."one would have to lock someone away for 30 years and feed them nothing but GMO's". This statement is bizarre, safety data has not been obtained but is obtainable, we always test products against the background of normal life.

Back in 1985 when I began work with the World Health Organization the FDA had credibility based on science and evidence – not on opinion. The current FDA has been criticized its own senior scientist for neither understanding, nor funding and nor incorporating science in their vision as to how the FDA should be run, FDA Science and Mission at Risk.

<http://www.fda.gov/ohrms/dockets/ac/07/briefing/2007-4329b_02_01_FDA%20Report%20on%20Science%20and%20Technology.pdf>

Other than one bright spot (pharmaceuticals, my area of work) the bad science is especially true for the Center for Food Safety.

If our federal regulators have been compromised then the state legislators must act as our de facto regulators. Regulators never quote opinion but ask for data. Where is the safety data for GMO foods? There is none? The industry now argues that tens of millions of GMO meals have been eaten and "nothing has been shown". First let me say that hundreds of millions of cigarettes were smoked before we showed the link to cancer in the 1950's...and then even after this wake-up call it took us another 2 decades to show the harm of second hand smoke. Next, more specific to the data, after millions of meals statistically someone would have health problems acutely or chronic. How would one know what is from GMO foods and what is normal background? This cannot be studied without labeling. It is like trying to see if there is a Gulf War Syndrome without knowing who served in the Gulf.

The American Academy of Environmental Medicine has published a position where doctors are told to warn their patients that GMO's have unknown health risk, consider GOM's the cause of unusual (qualitative or quantitative) illness/syndromes, demand a moratorium on new GMO foods, and require labeling of existing products, and ask for extensive health tests by independent agencies.

<http://www.aaemonline.org/gmopost.html>. The call for full safety testing has now been endorsed by the American Medical Association. This document gives many references which show widespread alarming abnormalities in animals. This combined with the lack of testing in man demands that regulators – whoever is de facto in charge – follow the AAEM guidelines.

If we are going to resort to just opinion (rather than data) then we must ignore those who have a conflict of interest – the companies, their sponsors and those whose accept their grants. Indeed this was how the credible FDA prior to the late 1980's operated. Whose opinion shall we use? The undisputed champion is the National Academy of Sciences (Institute of Medicine). Their position can be summed up in their graph on page 4 of their publication addressing the unintended health effects of Genetically Engineered Foods: http://www.nap.edu/openbook.php?record_id=10977&page=4. Try as they may industry supporters cannot "explain away" the damning claim that there are many more unintended health effects of GMO foods. The last argument by a prominent industry supporter claimed that not all unintended health effects are "bad". Clever argument which leads to disaster when you stop to think about it. This was made by a famous PhD who does not realize that from a medical perspective a products potentially good effects does not "balance out" its bad. For example if a product, food or drug, is good for one's kidney but bad for one's heart who should we give it to? Those with good hearts but bad kidneys or vice versa? Worse yet, do we give it out unlabeled to those with good kidneys and good hearts? This is the industry champion's position and we need a specific answer to my medical questions. At the very least we test and label it.

Under state statute the Hawaii Dept of Health has the authority to change, suspend or modify any law when harm is being done – including federal laws (excluding tobacco products) . This is why even when operating under FDA guidelines we can suspend food operators if we detect outbreaks. In the case of GMO's we have not shown harm in humans – we have not looked. But in animals and by sound scientific opinion we need to be cautious and put restrictions on GMO products – either as foods or as environmental /occupational risks of non-food products. I believe that these issues fall under EIS guidelines for government lands as well as potential contamination of such lands.

Sincerely,

Lorin Pang, MD, MPH

As Private Citizen

WHO consultant since 1985

Retired Army Medical Corp

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 6:17 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Lrbobo@Hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Love Bernheim	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 6:52 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: luann@tinroofranch.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Luann Casey	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We have the right to know what is in our food. We have to label our food "non GMO" to export to Japan...the people on the island deserve the same. Thank you

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February 3, 2013

To: House Committee on Agriculture
Re: HB174 Relating to food labeling

Honorable Representatives,

I must thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB174. I speak on behalf of myself and my 'ohana. This bill is very important to me; in fact it is one of the most important issues that we face today which motivates me to write this testimony. I live on the island of Kauai and therefore will be unable to attend the hearing for this bill tomorrow. I am a Horticulture Researcher for the state of Hawaii but I am not speaking in my official capacity but as a very concerned citizen, mother and grandmother. I live in Lihue but my work takes me to Kokee two to three times a week. I must travel from Lihue to Waimea in order to get there. From Lihue to Kipu, from Hanapepe to Mana, there are thousands of acres of land being used to grow genetically engineered corn and other crops. Our year round climate, ideal growing conditions and acres and acres of agriculture land make Kauai ground zero for open field testing of GE crops and corn seed production. What concerns me is the exposure of our communities to large quantities of chemicals being used on these crops and impacts to residents, streams, waterways and ultimately our ocean where run-off from storms naturally end up. I know labeling will not address these concerns but I look at labeling as the first step in regulating these companies actions and creating awareness on the part of consumers as to their food choices. Currently many consumers are unaware just how pervasive GMO's are in the food supply which current data suggests 70% of all food consumed has genetically engineered ingredients in them.

I have grave concerns about the health and safety of myself and my family regarding exposure to GMO foods. These concerns come as a result of my own research and the research of many others with similar concerns. There have been many studies done by independent scientists as well as the FDA's

own scientists and results in lab animals raised red flags and safety concerns for human consumption. As a result I have consciously chosen to avoid GMO in my diet. Trust me, this isn't easy nor is it cheap. It involves buying only certified organic foods, shopping at farmers markets, growing my own vegetables and raising chickens. Many don't have the time, resources and money to do this. The average consumer cannot and won't be as vigilant as I to ensure no GMO in the food they eat. People living in the city in apartments or condos obviously are unable to grow their own food or have little access to farmers markets. Labeling will enable more consumers to make informed choices and isn't that one of our fundamental rights as consumers? Almost all processed foods contain some form of genetically engineered crop and/or by-product, but we can't really know unless it is labeled. How can the safety of these crops ever be fully understood unless we can make the correlation between GMO food consumption and disease? All chronic diseases have been on the upswing since GMO's were introduced into the food supply in the early 90's and Americans have more chronic disease than any other industrialized country in the world. Americans are sicker than ever before, all forms of cancer are on the increase, infertility is on the rise and instead of adult onset diabetes we are seeing an increase in childhood diabetes. What can this be attributed to? Is it possible our food supply is to blame? I happen to think there is a direct correlation. More long term studies are needed, but in the meantime the safety of the consumer must be first and foremost over corporate interests.

You must question the motives of Monsanto, Dow, Dupont/Pioneer, Syngenta and BASF, the five companies doing business in Hawaii today, if GMO's are safe for consumers as they say why not label? It would be like any other product on the supermarket shelves today that must include a list of ingredients. The process is in place. It's just a matter of adding GE to any listed ingredient that contains GMO or a simple one liner "contains genetically engineered ingredients".

I believe this is a state issue and that we can't wait for the federal government to step in. There has been far too much corporate influence by Monsanto in the FDA and Congress that the likelihood of labeling being mandated on the federal level is highly improbable. An example of such influence is Michael Taylor, a former attorney, Vice President and chief lobbyist for Monsanto, who became the senior advisor to the commissioner of the FDA in 2009. In 2010 he was appointed to the newly created position at the FDA as Deputy Commissioner for Food. He has spent the last few decades revolving between Monsanto, the FDA and the USDA. As with the decriminalization of marijuana, states need to take their own actions, forcing the federal government to address the issue down the road. Hawaii is by far one of the most impacted states when it comes to the growing and consumption of GMO crops. In addition we need to support diversified agriculture and get away from large tracts of land being used to grow mono-crops. Hawaii needs to get off its dependency of industrialized agriculture and move toward a more sustainable, diversified agricultural community that supports local farmers. Instead of allowing these multi-national corporations to occupy precious farm land, that exports all its seeds and provides no food for surrounding communities, support our local economy by supporting small farmers.

The GMO issue encompasses far more than just labeling but as I said earlier, it is a beginning point. It allows for greater consumer awareness, starts the dialogue across a wider spectrum of the community and allows us to discuss the adverse environmental impacts to our land and water, vital precious resources that are necessary for Hawaii to sustain itself long into the future without an overdependence on imports.

I ask that you vote in favor of a GMO labeling bill and allow Hawaii to set the example for the rest of the nation. It is only a matter of time. Let's be proactive and show that we care about the health and safety of our families. This is an issue that affects each and every one of us. Don't listen to the corporate spiel

on this. They have an agenda and ultimately it will always be for profit. Listen to your constituents who come from a point of aloha, aloha for their loved ones and aloha for the 'aina. If you still question the safety of these foods, I urge you to do your research because there is much information out there on the negative affect on health and the environment. Good information can be found at The Center for Food Safety (www.centerforfoodsafety.org) and "Genetic Roulette", a documentary free for viewing on the internet. To help you with your research I suggest reading "Seeds of Deception" and "Genetic Roulette" by Jeffrey M. Smith. If after doing your due diligence and you still cannot agree on the dangers of GMO's, than vote in favor of a true democracy where the people have the right to make informed choices. As elected officials, you have the kuleana to do that for the segment of the population who want the right to knowingly choose what they eat. As a mother of five grown children and two grandchildren, I am asking you to do this for the generations to come that will bear the consequences of our decisions today. Monsanto and the like cannot guarantee that the safety of these foods is undisputed so we must err on the side of safety. Mothers in Hawaii and all over the world are rising up to protect the health of their keiki, I hope you will listen to their voices. Let's not wait until it's too late and the consequences are irreversible.

Me ke aloha,

Lynlie Miliaulani Waiamau

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**

Mark Phillipson, Syngenta Hawaii, Lead, Corporate Affairs

Monday, February 4, 2013

Re: HB 174 – Relating to Food Labeling

Aloha Chair Wooley and Members of the Agricultural Committee,

My name is Mark Phillipson and I am with Corporate Affairs for Syngenta Hawaii. We strongly oppose this measure for a number of reasons.

First, the proposed labeling requirement is unnecessary. There is no health and safety justification for the labeling provisions set forth in this bill. The American Medical Association, the National Academy of Sciences, and the World Health Organization, among dozens of other highly reputable government and non-governmental organizations, have found biotech agriculture products to be at least as safe as products grown using conventional methods and, in some cases, safer.

The American Medical Association adopted a formal statement in opposition to the mandatory labeling of genetically engineered foods, stating “there is no scientific justification for special labeling of bioengineered foods.” No need!

Second, the cost of forcing local stores to label the wide variety of packaging containing foods with bio technology sourced products among the ingredients would be a substantial expense, which would be passed on to consumers, dramatically increasing prices. Who track and traces these for the state and at what cost to the taxpayer.

Finally, responsibility for regulation of food labeling lies with the federal government, specifically the Food and Drug Administration - an agency that has the appropriate expertise and resources to scientifically evaluate if a food poses a health or safety risk and whether a label is required. Agricultural biotech products are the most studied products in the agricultural arena. Companies study the products for seven or more years, including testing for allergens and toxins. This is prior to the FDA, USDA, and EPA review that takes a couple more years. The products are safe.

Because food labeling is not the responsibility of the state, it would be fiscally irresponsible to saddle state government with yet another unfunded mandate. In the end, if passed, the consumer pays more in taxes and more at the checkout stand for exactly the same product they get today. Yet these 16 year 3 trillion meals served safe products without incident will have a label because of a “right to know.” If genetic engineering is a philosophical, religious, or fear based concern, the USDA certified organic is readily available to you now.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 5:32 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: oceanfrontfarm@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
marlene gilbert	Individual	Support	No

Comments: All GMO should be labeled. I am a Hawaii resident and want Hawaii to stay a healthy safe place, not a testing ground.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 1:11 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: hokuokekai50@msn.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Lacques	Hawai'i SEED	Support	No

Comments: Mary Lacques Hawai'i SEED HB174 Chairperson Representative Jessica Wooley House Committee on Agriculture Monday February 4, 2013 9:30am Capitol Auditorium Position: Support Aloha Chair Wooley, Vice-Chair Onishi and Members of the Committee, mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of HB174 which would require mandatory labeling of genetically engineered (GE) foods in the State of Hawai'i. My name is Mary Lacques and I am a member of Hawai'i SEED and Label It Hawai'i. We strongly support the passage of HB174 because consumers have a right to know what they are feeding themselves and their families. According to a national poll conducted by the Mellman Group in February of 2012, 91 percent of Americans questioned favored the labeling of genetically engineered foods. The most significant aspect of this study was that these results were consistent within two percentage points among Republicans, Independents and Democrats. A 2007 survey conducted by the University of Hawai'i found that 72 percent of Hawai'i residents said the labeling of GE foods was "very important" while another 13 percent said it was "somewhat" important. As residents of Hawai'i we need to assert our influence and insist that we are guaranteed the same right as sixty countries that require the labeling of these transgenic, novel life forms that have contaminated our food supply. You will undoubtedly hear from concerned citizens about the myriad list of environmental and health effects that have been attributed to the ingestion and cultivation of GE products, I suggest that you do your own research which will give you a better understanding of why Hawai'i residents have supported labeling efforts for so long. I ask that you honor the efforts of our elected officials at the national level that have supported labeling of GE since 1999, when the late Congresswoman Patsy Mink signed on to support a recommendation to the Food and Drug Administration to label GE food. Hawai'i SEED supports sustainable, agroecological food and farming techniques that respect the traditional Hawaiian ahupua'a system of working with the land as opposed to efforts to modify and manipulate the land. Please vote in favor of HB 174. Sincerely, Mary Lacques P.O. Box 14 Hale'iwa HI 96712

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onishi1-Jerry

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Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:05 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: labelithawaii@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM
Attachments: HB174 LIH.docx

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Oyama		Support	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 1:14 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Matt-k@att.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Matt King	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support labeling of GMOs in Hawaii

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The Asia-Pacific Center for Regenerative Design

4539 Malia St, Honolulu HI 96821

January 29, 2013

State Committee on Agriculture
ATT: Rep. Jessica Wooley, Chair & Rep. Richard H.K. Onishi, Vice Chair
The Senate: Twenty-seventh Legislature
Regular Session of 2013

Dear Senators,

Production of GMO crops utilizes a technology that has been pushed upon the public in the pursuit of corporate profits. Prioritizing economic health at the expense of the ecological health of Hawaii's natural resources puts that economic well-being at risk, as without healthy ecosystems we have no life support system for our local economy.

According to the *Center for Food Safety*:

"A number of studies over the past decade have revealed that genetically engineered foods can pose serious risks to humans, domesticated animals, wildlife and the environment. Human health effects can include higher risks of toxicity, allergenicity, antibiotic resistance, immune-suppression and cancer. As for environmental impacts, the use of genetic engineering in agriculture will lead to uncontrolled biological pollution, threatening numerous microbial, plant and animal species with extinction, and the potential contamination of all non-genetically engineered life forms with novel and possibly hazardous genetic material.

A movement demanding organic, ecologically sound and humanely produced food is challenging the decades-long dominance of the industrial model of chemical-based agriculture. While corporate-controlled agriculture still dominates our farms and supermarket shelves, organic is expanding faster than any other U.S. food production sector. Moreover, thousands of farmers and producers are pushing beyond organic, by producing food that is locally based, humanely grown, socially just, and in a manner that conserves and enhances biodiversity."

The labeling of organically produced food gives the public the power to make an empowered purchasing decision which supports ecologically sound, stewardship-based land management practices. Similarly, the labeling of GMO foods – simply for what they are - is a basic & fundamental step towards enhancing public health, by equipping people with the information needed to make an informed decision.

I urge the Senate to do whatever it can in its power to protect our right to have access to safe, healthy food - which is produced using ecologically sound land management practices - by labeling the GMO products in our food supply.

Sincerely,

Matthew Lynch
Executive Director



*Based on the ethics of "Earth Care, People Care, & Resource Share",
Regenerative Design seeks to observe, understand, and emulate healthy & productive ecological systems to create
human systems & settlements that increasingly flourish over time.*

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 1:43 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: makana@kevcom.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Matthew Swalinkavich	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 8:26 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: maefuimaono@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Me Fuimaono	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Please! Pass this one, I would love to see GMO products labeled. Not only so I know what I am feeding my daughter. I want GMO's labeled because there is no evidence that shows long term safety in GMO products. Mono crops in Hawaii need to become a distant memory. Biodiversity is our future.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 11:58 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: meg@megturner.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Meg	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 9:15 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: alohamelissag@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melissa Anderson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support labeling our food. We have a right to know what we are eating.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 4:49 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: melbefree@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melissa Ebeling	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please label our GMO Foods. You and I have the right to know what we are eating and feeding our family.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 4:29 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mrgach@att.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Reed Gach	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I believe that the public should know what they are eating; require labeling for all GMO food!

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 8:38 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mpaulimonte@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michelle Montgomery	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am not against GMO's in general. I think many of the crops developed are high quality and safe. GMO Papaya saved the Hawaii Papaya industry after it was devastated by Papaya ringspot virus and GMO coffee plants shows promise as nematode resistant root stock for grafting. However many people don't agree and we all deserve the right to choose what type of food goes into our bodies. Unfortunately it is a fact that the majority of the GMO's we actually consume are the few who give a bad name to the rest. GMO corn, soy, etc... which allow farmers to over indulge in herbicide and other chemical pesticides increase everyone exposure to dangerous chemicals. Also, corporate attitudes towards small, non GMO farmers have historically been appalling. Since these major corporations tend to own hundreds of brand names and with the ever increasing "food fraud" on labels, it can be extremely difficult to know "who owns what" and "what is contained in this food". We as conscientious people deserve the right to not only know what is in our food, but to choose what companies we support.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 7:18 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: son2k77@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Wong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 3:23 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: kauaisurfing@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mitchell Alapa	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Since it is so justifiably important to so many people it is only fair to label. Under the circumstances it should be a right for people to choose. Thank you.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 8:32 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mdclark88@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Monet Clark	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I SUPPORT HB174 requires packaging to state: "THIS PRODUCT CONTAINS A GENETICALLY ENGINEERED MATERIAL OR WAS PRODUCED WITH A GENETICALLY ENGINEERED MATERIAL." People who want to know have a right to know. Do not take away American's rights. Rights are the foundation of our culture.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 9:11 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: glenmio@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
MSUchida	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We need labeling of GMO derived products.

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To Whom it May Concern,

You have the chance today to be ahead of the tide that is rising and will continue to rise against the bio-chemical companies that are threatening our food supply and poisoning our soil. The movement to fight these companies is growing larger and larger. We are educated and passionate - and it's an issue that is unifying, so partisan politics will not stop it. Make no mistake, this grassroots movement will succeed. And when it does, don't think we will forget which politicians did not have our back. You all know that once an issue rises above partisan politics, and becomes lodged in the consciousness of the people, it is only a matter of time before justice will be done. The days of biochemical warfare and biochemical warfare on our food supply are waning. But you have the chance today to make history and say that you stood up to their money and their powerful lobbyists. You heard the voices of your constituents and you took action to protect the soil, the food supply, and to give people the option for the first time in decades, to KNOW that their food has been modified genetically. Labeling makes sense because it allows the consumers to make a more educated choice about what they are eating and feeding their children. The average consumer is up against these incredibly powerful biochemical companies, who fight every day to keep people from understanding just how much of our food supply has been altered violently from its natural state. The longer they can keep your constituents in the dark, the more money they make. That's why they are intensely lobbying against labeling in the United States. Because they lost the fight in Europe - and Japan and almost every other developed nation. Only in America will we let them continue to deceive us about what we are eating. At the end of the day - we are what we are fed. Mentally, physically and spiritually. We have the right to know what is going into our bodies, entering our bloodstreams, and being planted in our precious soil.

Don't wait until it's too late and our food supply has been altered for all time, never to return to it's natural state.

Protect us. We are asking you to protect us.

We need you to stand up for us.

Thank you,

Natasha McIntosh
1804 Poki Street #F
Honolulu, HI
96822

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 8:19 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: natclark108@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nathan Clark	Individual	Support	No

Comments: It has been proven that there is too little known about the long term affects of GMO crops to humans, animals and the environment. Studies have shown how GMO foods and medicine (tryptophan) have caused adverse side-effects and in the case of GMO tryptophan, many deaths, whereas the non-GMO version of tryptophan was safe when used as directed. Consumers have a right to know whether GMO's are in their foods and medicines. Please do your duty to protect the public sector from private interests by demanding the labeling of GMO products! Mahalo!

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 8:32 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: nokumura@vipfoodservice.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nelson T. Okumura	VIP Foodservice	Oppose	No

Comments: This is an unnecessary mandate as studies indicate no discernable difference. The requirement will keep many products currently available in Hawaii from being sold as large manufacturers will not change labeling for a small market like Hawaii.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 8:56 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: nneedle816@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nicholas Needle	Individual	Support	No

Comments: i deserve the right to know what ingredients are in my food and what i am feeling my family. it is my hope that the hawaii state legislature will do everything in its power to protect and serve the people from food and food ingredients that contain genetically modified organisms.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 8:41 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: nina_kai@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nina Puhipau	Individual	Support	No

Comments: My family and I are very grateful to those who have introduced this bill and to those who continue to work toward labeling of gmos in Hawai`i. Our family home is in Waialua, O`ahu. Waialua has more and more open field testing of gmo corn all around our homes and schools. I hope you will drive down Kaukonahua Road from Schofield to Waialua to see for yourself. Gmos are an issue we cannot and should not minimize. I believe my husband is now allergic to 'Neosporin' antibiotic because he ate numerous unlabeled gmo papayas, which have antibiotic markers, from Kahuku (refer to Health Officer Dr. Lorrin Pang). Labeling gmos is an opportunity for Hawai`i to stand out and apart from the United States as independent islands in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. Labeling gmos will encourage much needed awareness and dialog about the issue. We all deserve the right to make informed decisions. It is my understanding that the US FDA received more signatures for labeling gmo's for California's Right to Know initiative than for anything else in history! Let Hawai`i Lead the Way in Joining the Rest of the World, in safety and caution. ~Another Mom For Labeling gmo Products

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 8:31 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: zaffbryan@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Noel Bobilin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We have a right to know how our food is produced.

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Support HB174
Hawaii House of Representatives
Agriculture Committee Members

February 4, 2013 9:30 AM

Aloha Honorable Agriculture Committee Representatives,

We are a non-profit organization dedicated to environmental awareness, primarily focused on education about the impacts of genetically engineered crop production and industry. Our organization represents over 1,900 members and supporters predominantly in Hawaii and we are in strong support of HB174 for GMO food labeling on the following grounds.

The people of Hawaii are seeking legislation and protection and identification for GMO products. We are constituents and citizens, secretaries, models, teachers, farmers, parents, students, chefs, doctors, lawyers, therapists, promoters, dancers, surfers, entrepreneurs and community advocates. We are not lobbyists and multi-national corporations, or heavily invested in chemical, industrialized genetically engineered farming, for those are generally the only representatives who come to defending the biotech agenda; Those who are paid by the companies profiting from our slow destruction.

We however are highly active in our community, and dedicated to raising awareness and of course, we are your voters. Over 1,000 Hawaii people marched on the State Capitol on opening day to a rally of perhaps 1,000 more, demanding the end of GMO's and the labeling of what does exist, the abolishing of the PLDC and Hawaiian sovereignty restoration. Your constituents and people across the world are clearly calling for identification and regulation of GMO products.

GMO products have been linked to serious health risks including infertility, sterility, endocrine disruption, cancerous

tumors, organ enlargement, problems with protein and cholesterol synthesis, intestinal dysregulation and undesirable genetic mutations, these foods that MUST be labeled. Genetically engineered product makers and food manufacturers are reliant on the fact that we can not detect their presence in food, they are committed to deception and refusing to identify their products.

Companies that produce genetically engineered products and foodstuff collected themselves in just a matter of months to spend over \$45 million dollars fighting GMO labeling in California's Proposition 37 alone. They can afford to label the food.

Recently major food manufacturers Pepsi, ConAgra and other funders of No to Prop 37, which consisted of biotech, GMO companies and food manufacturers who funded a campaign against food labeling transparency met with the FDA to discuss the labeling of genetically modified foods. The specific companies who funneled money to fight the public right to know if their food has GMO ingredients, have been receiving major consumer backlash. They who spent millions against food ingredient transparency are feeling the nationwide boycotts of their products and relentless exposures and viral campaigns within social media networks. It is time to address GMO food labeling.

Consumers want GMO'S LABELED. Consumers want to know, who is using GMO food. This is a reality, already in 61 countries whose legislators demonstrate deep respect for material and nutritional transparency. It is time for us to address the food industry and we are insist, with all due respect, that GMO's be labeled. A compromise, in the opinion of this organization, would be passing GMO labeling without banning GMO crops this year.

GMO's are banned at some level in at least 29 countries, and already a half dozen U.S. counties have gone GMO free. Their makers have been exiled from numerous countries and sued time and again for chemical poisoning alone. It is these products that need to be labeled, it is this you must focus on achieving. The time has come for Hawaii to eject the biotechnology seed industry and abolish the global and political GMO safe-haven that has severely derailed our sustainable future and caused Hawaii to become the foremost site and worldwide ground zero for open air genetic experimentation. The bare minimum is GMO labeling.

Our organization was formed in response to the dire condition of our legislation and state of our agriculture and local food supply regarding GMO corporations. We advocate for citizen engagement in these issues that are coming about when many are unaware they are even up for consideration. Biotechnology corporations conducting research and production of genetically engineered organisms are, in addition to threatening our fragile ecosystem and food supply, literally exposing us to components of war chemicals, spraying it next to schools, and kupuna homes. They speak only on the brilliant aims of their science, not the failed mutations of their reality.

Class action lawsuits are starting to address heavily exposed areas and incidentally, already 52,000 sea urchins were found dead off the coast of a GMO farm in Kauai alone. These are not farming companies, these are chemical

companies who seek to increase the sale of chemicals and the pestilential expansion and cross-contamination of their patented, literally now viral, genetic alterations on life.

GMO's are the most endangering and invasive species of all, there is no recuperation from GMO's, we may never be able to grow food on GMO farm land again. We do not feel GMO's should even be allowed to farm in the open air in Hawaii as they contaminate conventional crops. This is the most pressing issue in Hawaii today. Over 1,000 citizens marched down Beretania to the Capitol on opening day just January 16th to a roar demanding the end of GMO's and at the very least, labeled toxins and that, should be a strong reflection of the community response to GMO's in Hawaii.

We must address GMO industry impacts on our local economy in addition to the social and environmental costs they are inducing. These companies are chemically farming an export GMO seed industry that receives obscene levels of tax relief and retains little to no benefit or profit for the state or the citizens. We desperately need local, non-toxic farming, organic and non-GMO agricultural support, not additional burdens on an industry barely surviving when GMO contamination is only a field away and pesticide drift is impacting residents and agriculture daily.

In addition to performing literally the most open air experimental field trials in the world in Hawaii, they are depleting our natural resources. Hawaii's climate is ideal for agriculture and they are able to turn 3-4 crops per year as opposed to 1-2 most places in the United States. Few other countries allow GMO companies to perform unlimited open air genetic experiments. Please pay close attention to what GMO farms are doing in Hawaii and protect the organic and non-GMO farmers by regulating GMO's and requiring they disclose their contents in food.

The once rich soil, which GMO farms are monocropping compounds similar plantation and chemical farming damages on farm lands. The same nutrients are pulled from the soil over and over, they plant no cover crops and they do not rotate crops. Instead of using cows to fertilize, and chickens to eat the pests, they use chemical fertilizers and pesticides and herbicides which saturate our soil, contaminate groundwater and kill the healthy microorganisms and bacteria that are necessary for plant life.

The companies that produce genetically engineered products are irresponsibly releasing highly controversial new life forms, of highly questionable ethics in regards to health and environmental safety. The companies manufacturing GMO's have been exiled from dozens of countries, and the damages are piling here. As public concern begins to flow and more countries ban or demand labeling, we as a society must also stand up and require the mandation of GMO labeling.

There are multiple versions of GMO's with pesticides engineered into the food, so when you consume Bt corn, for example, every kernel grows its own internal pesticide. This is for sale in your grocery store. That Bt has been found in the majority of blood samples given by pregnant women and their unborn babies' umbilical blood in a study in

Canada alone.

Without proper labeling, tracing the effects of GMO foods in Hawaii health is nearly impossible. Our hapai Mothers should be able to choose whether or not they want to eat food engineered to contain pesticides. All humans deserve the right to know what they are eating and what has been done to it. We are entering a new era wherein the masses want to know the source of their products, particularly their food. As new technologies and chemical farming increase, we want to follow food from the farm to the fork and know what we are supporting.

Regardless of whether or not you are unsure of just how damaging and risky biotechnology is, please hear us now. We have a right to know what we are eating, purchasing and supporting and if it has been genetically modified in addition to the 3000 ingredients, additives and processes which require labeling already. We who are conscious of GMO's will not stop until the power is back in the hands of the people over these unprincipled corporations to choose whether or not they want to eat GMO foods.

You have been given a chance to do something powerful on behalf of the people of Hawaii and stand for Hawaii and say the people have a right to know more than corporations have a right to profit off of their lack of knowledge. We do not want to spend our money on GMO's and need to be able to avoid them in order to pursue happiness and quality of life. Someone who supports them should have a choice to select GMO products, let the market speak for itself. If they one chooses to eat a GMO laden diet and does not care about serious health and environmental implications of doing so, one would still be able to under this legislation. Smokers still smoke carcinogenic formaldehyde soaked cigarettes, even with labels.

GMO corporations rely on the false principle of substantial equivalence and assure the public their foods and crops are no different than original, traditional foods while simultaneously arguing to the patent office that their inventions are unique, have never been created before, and deserve to be patented as different from all other prior existing products, successfully. If GMO foods are no different, how is it that GMO corporations are able to patent them? That alone should raise enough concerns to warrant the mandatory labeling of these foods. Give the children of today a chance to choose tomorrow, they are not old enough yet to make it happen by themselves and the effects of GMOs are irreversible.

Where is their research? Here is ours. The only studies representatives of GMO corporations have publicly referred to with respect, no matter how well peer reviewed, or well enough for 29 other countries to ban GMO's, are the studies funded by their own corporations and interest groups.

Ninety day studies performed by the GM companies themselves is what passes these GMO products into the food supply, when animal studies have proven it is the second and third generation effects that will be most mortal, most sterile, and most mutant, increasingly along the generation lines. GM industry funded safety research proclaiming

assurances that somehow satisfy our FDA, now headed by a former Monsanto executive, are not sufficient proof of their safety. We need you to address the facts. It may be slow to absorb, but we are in dire trouble having let GMO's into Hawaii in the first place. Please fix it.

In addition we have attached a summary analysis of major studies regarding GMO labeling courtesy of Yo Kobayashi. In reality, the cost of implementing GMO labeling is nominal. Food cost fear and paranoia proffered by GE industry representatives are equivalent to propaganda grossly exaggerated by paid employees of the biotechnology industry. Analysis of the studies show the biotech funded studies greatly magnified claims of food cost increase, and that the true increase average was only 5% of their projection.

The average cost per capita per annum is about \$5.

GMO companies have shown no regard to the environment or public health concerns and should be required to label their products at the absolute, bare minimum. We and our supporters passionately encourage GMO companies to abandon their efforts in Hawaii altogether. We encourage this body to pursue with all force necessary the labeling of genetically modified foods.

Mahalo for considering this testimony in strong support of HB174 for GMO food labeling.

Best Regards,

Nomi Carmona

President

Babes Against Biotech 501(c)3

Honolulu, HI

nomi@babesagainstbiotech.org

www.babesagainstbiotech.org

www.facebook.com/babesagainstbiotech

www.twitter.com/babesagainstgmo

www.instagram.com/babesagainstbiotech

Key Points of GMO Labeling Cost Discussion by Yo Kobayashi

Summary of major studies: Annual \$5 price increase

The annual price increase to consumers averaged \$5 per person or 0.25% for studies that did not have industry as their client or on their committee members and with the exception of one study, these studies were commissioned by the country's national and local governments. On the other hand, studies which had industry influence averaged annual price increase of \$108 or 3.7% per person. Please see the GMO Labeling Cost Chart in Photos for details.

Industries' habit of greatly overestimating cost: 5% of original estimate

Like in the case of GMO labeling, industries often push back against regulations that protect consumers but are inconvenient to them and one of their main arguments is, cost. A pertinent case is in the late 70's, when chemicals like DDT, PCBs and vinyl chloride were starting to be proven to harmful to people, chemical companies including Monsanto strongly resisted increased regulation with a massive PR campaign and said it would cost 2 million jobs and have a negative economic impact of \$65 billion. After the stronger regulations were enacted, the actual cost turned out to be 5% of their estimate, had no impact to jobs and the industry continued to grow.

Anecdotal evidence from countries that have implemented labeling: no price increase

Numerous countries have mandated GMO labeling and there have been no documented cases of price increase due to the introduction of labeling and anecdotal evidence from the UK at the time of implementation indicated no price increase at the retail level.

Major flaw in study conducted in Oregon, often cited by opponents of GMO labeling

One of the major assumptions behind the 4.7% price increase to Oregon consumers concluded in Northridge Environmental Management Consultants' 2002 "Economic Implementation Analysis of Oregon Measure 27" is flawed and changing the assumption to a more realistic figure could have substantially lowered the already greatly exaggerated price increase estimate. Please see below for details.

Potential cost to state

Given cost estimates ranging from \$200,000 to \$600,000 for the UK government with a population of 59 million people, the cost to the state of Hawaii should be less, given the smaller population. Please see GMO Labeling Cost Chart in Photos for details.

Cost of NOT labeling, the most important consideration from ethical and financial standpoint

Ultimately, the comparison should be to the cost of labeling to NOT labeling.

What is the damage of major diseases and allergies GMOs are associated with? For families, devastating emotional stress and possibly thousands in medical bills, and for the government, potentially the loss of consumer confidence and financial burden in the billions if not more. And all the while, nobody can track or if need be, contain the problem because something as simple as labeling of GMOs are not done.

Resources (Links to Documents):

W.K. Jaeger. 2002. "Economic Issues and Oregon Ballot Measure 27: Labeling of Genetic Modified Foods" (Oregon St. Economics)

<http://arec.oregonstate.edu/jaeger/personal/em8817.pdf>

Over 130 Studies Regarding GMO Labeling

<http://d3n8a8pro7vhm.cloudfront.net/labelgmos/pages/34/attachments/original/GM-Crops-just-the-science.pdf?1321839924>

American Academy of Environmental Medicine Position Paper on GMO

<http://www.aaemonline.org/gmopost.html>

Union of Concerned Scientists, High and Dry: Why Genetic Engineering Is Not Solving Agriculture's Drought Problem in a Thirsty World

http://www.ucsusa.org/food_and_agriculture/our-failing-food-system/genetic-engineering/high-and-dry.html

Scientists at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, at the University of Sherbrooke Hospital Centre in Quebec find pesticides in the blood of pregnant women and unborn babies. Traces of the toxin were found 93% of the pregnant mothers and in 80% of the umbilical cord blood.

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21338670>

Study linking GM maize to cancer must be taken seriously by regulators. Trial suggesting a GM maize strain causes cancer has attracted a torrent of abuse, but it cannot be swept under the carpet

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2012/sep/28/study-gm-maize-cancer>

Roundup Threat to Future of Food Safety by Microorganism Degradation Preventing Healthy Soil Conditions for Growth http://www.naturalnews.com/035221_Roundup_soil_health_food_supply.html

US Geological Survey Studies by US Department of Interior Indicate Spread of Roundup Active Toxic Ingredient Glyphosate Through Water. 'Widely Used Herbicide Commonly Found in Rain and Streams in the Mississippi River Basin' due to use on GMO crops <http://www.usgs.gov/newsroom/article.asp?ID=2909>

National Center for Biotechnology Information.gov Effects of Roundup(®) and Glyphosate on Three Food Microorganisms: Geotrichum candidum, Lactococcus lactis subsp. cremoris and Lactobacillus delbrueckii subsp. Bulgaricus. Roundup is considered a microbicide and inhibitor of growth in lower levels than agricultural application comparing glyphosate alone to Roundup and its effect on common bacteria used to start industrial cheeses and raw dairy products <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22362186>

Devastating Effects of Bayer Pesticide for GM Crops on Bee and Pollinating Insect Population

<http://www.non-gmoreport.com/articles/february2012/insecticideforGMcorn toxicbees.php>

Center for Food Safety Petition to the FDA with 1.1 million signatures, 55 Members of Congress Collect

and Demand GMO Labeling, 36 GMO Labeling Bills Introduced in US, Nearly 50 Countries Require GMO Labeling

<http://www.centerforfoodsafety.org/2012/03/27/record-breaking-one-million-public-comments-demand-fda-label-genetically-engineered-foods/>

50 countries with over 40% of the world's population already label genetically engineered foods, *Link to the Mellman Survey Results showing a random national survey of 1000 Americans showing that 90% favor labeling and 5% oppose <http://www.labelgmos.org/faqs>

Genetically Engineered Food Labeling Laws Global Map <http://www.centerforfoodsafety.org/ge-map/>

Just Label It Regarding petition to the FDA of 1.1 million signatures to label GMOs 91% of the American people <http://justlabelit.org/fda-responds-to-1-1-million/>

Thomson Reuters 2010 Survey of National Healthcare Consumers regarding Genetically Engineered Foods showing 93.1% of 100,000 surveyed want GE foods labeled

http://www.factsforhealthcare.com/pressroom/NPR_report_GeneticEngineeredFood.pdf

University of Purdue Abstract Multiple Routes of GMO Associated Pesticide Exposure for Honeybees Living Near Agricultural Fields <http://www.purdue.edu/newsroom/research/2012/120111KrupkeBees.html>

Monsanto vs. US Farmers 2010 – Documents downloaded from Monsanto.com meant to entice (or intimidate) potential seed buyers to choose GE seed, demonstrating the spread of contaminating GMO seed as Monsanto advertisement to potential GMO farmers demonstrates the lawsuits they have against “biopirate” farmers, the majority of whose fields are contaminated by GE seeds and will lose everything to Monsanto based on the company's track record. Blatantly advertising, “It's not worth the risk!” (to grow anything except our seed, or we will eventually contaminate your farm and sue you as we are suing these numbered offenders and you could lose everything simply by having a neighboring farm contaminated which we will call patent infringement including) threatening “Loss of technology license, loss of access to all traits, financial exposure up to \$500/acre, litigation costs and crop destruct” if farmers choose to not buy GE seed. They then use the “pretrial cash settlement” money to put young kids on the agritech career track.

<http://www.centerforfoodsafety.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/Monsanto-v-US-Farmer-2010-Update-v.-2.pdf>

Statistics from the biotech industry indicating rapid contamination of conventional seed by GMO seed in US indicating GE monocropping on the near horizon

http://www.gmo-compass.org/eng/agri_biotechnology/gmo_planting/506.usa_cultivation_gm_plants_2009.html

The Regulation of GMOs in Europe and the United States: A Case-Study of Contemporary European Regulatory Politics “Prince Charles also joined the public opposition to bioengineered crops. Stating that genetically-engineered foods take mankind into "realms that belong to God," the Prince cited concerns about long-term consequences for the environment and human health. [48] Leading chefs in the UK announced their opposition, calling for a moratorium on GMOs. Food writers also launched a campaign against GMOs, calling genetic engineering the equivalent of "imposing a genetic experiment on the public, which could have unpredictable and irreversible adverse consequences." [49] Pictures of a "Frankenstein potato" appeared on the pages of The Economist.[50]”

<http://www.cfr.org/genetically-modified-organisms/regulation-gmos-europe-united-states-case-study-contemporary-european-regulatory-politics/p8688>

Chicago Tribune May 2011 To clarify the misconception that there are plenty of grocery stores that sell all non-GMO food for those interested at this point all grocery stores contain GMOs – food does still need to be labeled regardless of the retailer - 2006 study for the Pew Initiative for Food and Biotechnology found that only 23 percent of women (the primary shopping decision makers) thought genetically modified foods were safe. The same Pew study found that only 26 percent of American consumers believed they'd ever eaten genetically modified food, while a 2010 survey by the International Food Information Council reported that only 28 percent of respondents knew such foods were sold in stores. <http://www.chicagotribune.com/health/ct-met-gmo-food-labeling--20110524,0,5841902.story>

New York Times Opinion on GMO Labeling April 3, 2012 Why Aren't G.M.O. Foods Labeled?

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Kauai Large Scale Die Off of Sea Urchins

http://thegardenisland.com/news/local/large-scale-die-off-of-sea-urchins-discovered-off-kaumakani/article_16081484-5a1b-11e1-bca7-0019bb2963f4.html

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(69) Traavik, T. and Jack Heinemann, (2006) "Genetic Engineering and Omitted Health Research: Still No Answers to Ageing Questions", 2006. Genok -- Centre for Biosafety

(70) Wilson, AK, Latham, JR and Steinbrecher, RA, 2006. "Transformation-induced mutations in transgenic plants: Analysis and biosafety implications." Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering Reviews – Vol. 23, December 2006, pp.209-237

(71) Wolfanberger, LL. & Phifer, PR. (2000) The ecological risks and benefits of genetically engineered plants. Science, 290, 2088-2093.

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 5:04 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: LoveYouniverse@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Olivia Banning	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha ka kou, I am a local, born and raised, resident of Oahu. This is how I feel~ GMO Food Ingredients should have been labeled or rather, Banned from Planet Earth years ago. We should know what's in the products We pay for and put into our bodies. We should be Informed about our food. It is ONLY Right that we Know the differences/treatment of the growth and/or alterations of our sustenance! I strongly support HONESTY. I want to see GMO's banned from the face of this planet in my lifetime, though in the meantime, there's no valid excuse not to at least, LABEL IT. Mahalo.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 4:14 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: liquidsouljah@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

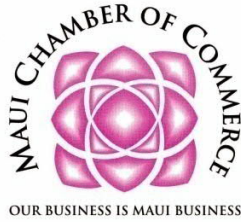
Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
P. Yushin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, GMO's are completely against being in harmony with Nature and Hawaii. They destroy soil, contaminate water, poison human beings, and animal life. Although I support labeling GMO's, GMO's should be completely banned. Mahalo, P. Yushin

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Testimony to the Agriculture Committee
State Capitol, Auditorium at 9:30am
February 4, 2013

RE: HB174 TO REQUIRE SPECIFIC LABELING FOR PRODUCTS CONTAINING GMO

Dear Chair Wooley, Vice Chair Onishi, and Committee Members:

Aloha, my name is Pamela Tumpap and I am the President of the Maui Chamber of Commerce. I am writing to Oppose HB174 to require specific labeling for any food or raw agricultural commodity sold in the State that contains or was produced with a genetically engineered material.

This is an unnecessary business mandate and we feel that the negative impacts have not been adequately weighed in this bill. We disagree with such labeling as:

- The FDA has determined that genetically-modified crops do not differ from non-genetically-modified crops and therefore do not need to be labeled as such.
- It is estimated that 70-80% of the products in our grocery stores already contain GMO and that this important fact is not widely understood.
- That many common and desired products would no longer be offered in Hawaii as large manufacturers will not create such labeling solely for Hawaii's small market.
- Requiring labeling for ingredients that do not pose a health issue undermines existing labeling laws and consumer confidence and sends the wrong message. Further, labeling already exists for those who have GMO concerns. They can avoid products with GM ingredients by selecting products that have been labeled "certified organic" under the National Organic Program.
- If there is a market advantage to promoting non-GMO products, businesses whose products do not contain GM ingredients can elect to appropriately label their products to let consumers know.
- Creating an unnecessary mandatory labeling program would:
 - Heap more and needless costs onto businesses, adding to our already high cost of doing business in this state;
 - Increase costs for consumers, despite the fact that the FDA has indicated labeling is not required; and
 - Further burden state regulatory agencies.

Therefore, we respectfully request that you oppose HB174.

We appreciate and thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony as you consider this important matter. If you have any questions regarding our testimony, please contact us at 808-244-0081.

Sincerely,

Pamela Tumpap
President

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:06 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: pvcaloa@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patrick Coan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Anyone in hawaii legislator who is in favor of keeping info of GMO ingredients a secret is probably on their payroll, directly or indirectly, because their constituents have made it clear - we deserve to know!!!! Thank you

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EARTHJUSTICE

ALASKA CALIFORNIA FLORIDA MID-PACIFIC NORTHEAST NORTHERN ROCKIES
NORTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN WASHINGTON, DC INTERNATIONAL

REPRESENTATIVE JESSICA WOOLEY, CHAIR
REPRESENTATIVE RICHARD H.K. ONISHI, VICE-CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY RE: HOUSE BILL NO. 174
RELATING TO FOOD LABELING

February 4, 2013, 9:30 a.m.
Auditorium

Good morning Chair Wooley, Vice-Chair Onishi, and members of the Committee:

My name is Paul Achitoff, and I am an attorney with Earthjustice. I appreciate the opportunity to offer this testimony regarding House Bill No. 174. Earthjustice supports this bill, which requires that foods produced through genetic engineering sold in Hawai`i be labeled as such.

The people of Hawai`i have a right to know whether the foods they purchase, consume, feed to their family, and serve to others have been produced through genetic engineering. Producing foods by means of genetic engineering results in a number of serious environmental and socioeconomic problems and raises health concerns, and the people of Hawai`i have a right to decide for themselves not only whether they want to eat and serve those foods, but also whether they want to subsidize the production of crops that cause these harms to others.

It is an established fact that hundreds of millions of additional pounds of herbicide have been used on America's agricultural lands due to the use of herbicide resistant genetically engineered crops. Millions of acres of U.S. farmland are now infested with herbicide resistant "superweeds" as a direct result of this constant dousing of the fields with glyphosate, or Roundup, the herbicide to which most genetically engineered crops have been designed to be immune. Nearly half of U.S. farmers now report such Roundup-resistant weeds in their fields, up from 34 percent in 2011. Farmers must now use other methods to kill these weeds, and many have turned to using more toxic herbicides for this purpose.

The herbicide used on most genetically engineered crops, glyphosate, is now found in the ground and surface waters of many states, and even in the rain, according to a recent study by the U.S. Geological Survey.

It is an established fact that U.S. farmers have suffered well over a billion dollars in damages as a result of having their crops contaminated with genetically engineered varieties. The contamination of the U.S. long grain rice crop a few years ago alone has resulted in hundreds of millions of dollars in damages awarded to rice farmers after trial, or through settlements.

Numerous studies have suggested a link between ingestion of certain genetically engineered foods and serious abnormalities in farm animals and laboratory animals.

Poll after poll has shown a very large majority of people want genetically engineered foods labeled so that they can decide for themselves what to purchase. Neither the companies that genetically engineer the crops, nor the farmers who choose to grow them for their own convenience, nor the companies that process them, have a right to enrich themselves by forcing everyone to buy their food blindfolded. Secrecy at the expense of others is not an acceptable method of marketing or enhancing profitability.

We respectfully ask you to pass HB174. Thank you again for the opportunity to offer this testimony.

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 12:34 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: pennysfh@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Penny Levin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This bill does not make any judgement over whether gmo foods are good or bad; it only supports our right to know as consumers what is in our food. I support the right of every person in Hawaii to have a choice over the food they consume. Without labeling t hat can not occur. I encourage committee members to support this bill and pass it out of committee to allow public dialogue and freedom of choice to flourish.

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I am strongly in favor of requiring the labeling of all foods containing genetically modified substances. I am a former part-owner and operator of a Hawaii-based food production business, Tahitian Goddess, that used only Hawaiian-grown ingredients to the extent possible.

I am familiar with the expenses involved in designing, printing and applying labels to food products and in my experience requirements for ingredient identification is important and is not overly burdensome to the producer.

It is crucial for the consumer to identify the content of the food being purchased, both for understanding the quality being sought and the possible harm of certain ingredients. This bill provides for important protections and should be passed.

Perry Bream

onishi1-Jerry

From: Peter Gommers [peterghome@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 1:04 PM
To: Rep. Jessica Wooley; AGRtestimony
Subject: Re: Please vote yes to pass HB 174

ATT: Chairperson Representative Jessica Wooley
Email: repwooley@capitol.hawaii.gov; AGRtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov
House Committee on Agriculture

Date of Hearing: Feb. 4, 2013 9:30 am
House Auditorium at the Capitol Building of the Senate

Honorable Chairperson and Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of the passage of HB 174.

My name is Peter Gommers and I live in Waialua on the North Shore of Hawaii. I care very much about what I eat...and that it is labeled if it is GMO. There is far to little research on GMO foods and their long term effects on diversity and extinction of the plants on which we live, let alone any research on the health effects of eating GMO on our animals and ourselves and our children.....so we would all benefit in leading the nation by labeling all our foods. In this way, we have a choice. That is important.

If GMO is as safe as the ag companies say it is, then why are they afraid to require labeling? Think about it.

I very trongly support passage of this bill for the following reasons:

- 1.Under the National Organic Program, genetic modification (GM) is not approved for use in the production of organic foodstuffs. The production of GM foods presents the risk of contamination in the growing, processing and handling of foodstuffs and thus GM foods pose an economic threat to organic agriculture and farming which is a fast growing sector of Hawaii's economy.
- 2.Food production should be moving towards more sustainable methods of agriculture, food and farming (i.e. not using harmful chemicals such as insecticides, herbicides, chemical fertilizers etc.) that respect Hawaii's unique ecosystem and drawing on knowledge from traditional Hawaiian agricultural practices. GM foods are moving in the opposite direction and result in increased chemical use in the production of food.
- 3.Consumers have the right to know whether the foods they eat are produced using genetic modification techniques; the overwhelming majority of consumers want to know whether the foods they consume are genetically modified or not.

4. There are unknown human health and environmental risks associated with genetically modified foods. Without labeling consumers will be unable to identify genetically modified foods and won't know if they are consuming them or not.

5. Voters want their politicians to be on the side of the public, which you are supposed to represent, not on the side of the special interests that throw tons of money around to just grow their profits regardless of the public needs and wants.

Please vote in favor of HB 174.
Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Peter Gommers
68-615 Farrington Hwy. 17B
Waialua, HI
96791
phone: 808-888-3872

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 3:50 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: rasikaleue@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rasika Leue	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We don't want to continue being a GMO experiment! Please just require labels. We can then decide what we want to put in our ohana and keiki's bellies. Mahalo.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 11:33 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: reafox22@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
rea fox	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We the citizens insist on this option. We demand to know what are the components of the foods we buy so that we may make informed choices.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 2:38 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mauibecca@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rebecca Lea	Individual	Support	No

Comments: People deserve to know what is in their food!!!!

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onishi1-Jerry

From: Jasmine Branco on behalf of Rep. Richard Onishi
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 6:05 PM
To: onishi1-Jerry
Subject: FW: HB 174

From: Respiratory & Environmental Disabilities Assoc. of HI [<mailto:redahi@hawaii.rr.com>]
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 4:02 PM
To: All Reps
Subject: HB 174

This is one of the most sensible bills on our dockets this year. For those of us disabled with MCS, food allergy is another component of this debilitating illness. Early in the genetic engineering process we were promised many things with this technology. We were told: the genes would not cross through into our blood streams; we would be able to use less pesticides; and, there would be no allergies associated with the engineering. All these years down the line we now know none of these are true. One of the first problems to manifest was the allergy problem. Not only were people becoming sickened with the food product itself but the GE pollen became problematic in communities surrounding the fields.

The other problems we have encountered are: plants are adapting causing an increase of toxic chemicals used on food products, not the decrease we were promised. Communities around these areas are suffering along with anyone ingesting the additional chemicals.

Additionally the GE genes are crossing from our guts into our blood and collecting there and in our tissues. No one knows the outcome of this. We do know diseases and environmental illnesses are on the rise since the introduction of these foods and products.

Now, more than ever, do we need to know what we are eating. Labeling will aid us in structuring the health and welfare of ourselves and families. We are prevailing upon our legislators for help doing so. Please support this bill. Our health and community depend on it.

Thank you for your time.

B.A. McClintock, RED AHI, Honolulu, HI

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 3:42 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mrrdiehl@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Diehl Ph.D. M.Ed. L.Ac.	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: This is an important issue and opposition is gaining ground nation-wide. Its just a matter of time till GMO labeling gets passed in various states so lets be leaders instead of followers. Mahalo

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Aloha Honolulu City Council Members,

Mahalo for considering this testimony in support of HB 174, to require labeling of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) also known as Genetically Engineered (GE) foods sold in the state of Hawai'i. The time has come for you to stand up for the people once and for all. Currently Hawai'i has more experimental field trials of genetic engineering than any other state in the nation which is why we must begin here. Our future generations are counting on us.

Banned in over 30 countries, food labeling mandatory in more 60 countries, with many parts of the world demanding an end to GMO crop cultivation altogether. GMOs are a worldwide biohazard and they must be stopped. Unlike most other developed countries such as 15 nations in the European Union, Japan, Australia, Russia, and even China, the U.S. has no laws requiring labeling of GE foods. There are many reasons why Americans want labeling of GE foods. For some it is due to health, safety, or environmental concerns. For others, it is due to religious considerations. Still others believe that the right to know is a core American value.

The fact is, we don't know if Genetically Engineered foods are safe. The safety of GE crops for human consumption has not been adequately assured. Several National Academy of Sciences studies have affirmed that GE crops have the potential to introduce new toxins or allergens into our food and environment. Yet unlike the strict safety evaluations for approval of new drugs, there are no mandatory human clinical trials of Genetically Engineered crops, no tests for carcinogenicity or harm to fetuses, no long term testing for human health risks, no requirement for long term testing on animals, and limited testing for allergenicity. There have been no epidemiological studies of the possible impacts of the consumption of GE crops on health. But ongoing studies have confirmed that there is reason for caution. For example, scientists recently found that the insecticide in GE corn is now showing up in our bloodstream and the umbilical cord blood of pregnant women. More research needs to be done to confirm these results and determine whether consumption of GE crops is introducing new toxins into our bodies. While scientists continue research, shouldn't we have labeling so we can choose?

Studies show that over 90% of Americans that know about GE foods want them labeled. Yet for twenty years we have been denied that right. While our reasons for wanting to know what's in our food may vary, what unifies us is the belief that it's our right to know. Without proper labeling of GE foods, we simply cannot make informed choices about our food.

Organic and non-GMO labeling is just not enough when the majority of Americans are still not aware they are consuming GMOs. Some worry that it would be a big expense to food companies and their consumers if the FDA requires GE ingredients to be identified on food labels. Well, companies often change their labels for a variety of reasons. The FDA would give a period to phase in the new labeling requirements as it

has done with all required labeling changes, so the costs could be incorporated into other planned packaging changes and not passed onto consumers.

Labels matter. Until we know without a doubt that GE crops are safe to eat, we should have a choice about whether we want to eat them. The scientific debate about the benefits and risks of GE crops may go on for a long time. Meanwhile, an entire generation will have grown up consuming them unknowingly. We should all have a choice about whether we want to participate in this grand experiment with our bodies and our environment. The right to know what we are purchasing and eating supersedes corporate rights to a non-transparent profit.

Mahalo again for considering this testimony in favor of HB 174.

Sincerely,

Rina Moore
1717 Mott Smith Drive
rinatpogai@yahoo.com
February 4, 2013 9:30 AM
HB 174

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 3:08 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: ritahands@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rita Massey	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We need to know what is in our food. We need more testing on GMOs for safety, and done by third parties. In the meantime, we need to be able to keep track. Mahalo.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 5:55 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: lovpeppard@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rita Ractliffe	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please make this happen! GMO products need to be shown for those who do not wish to partake of them. Please!

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 6:26 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: hawaiianstyle@rocketmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Kealoha Domingo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support labeling of ALL genetically modified foods. We as consumers, parents and tax paying adults deserve to know and choose what we are feeding our children and ourselves. It is not fair or ethically correct for corporations to allow consumers to do so without knowledge of genetic modification. There is scientific evidence that GMO's can cause cancer, birth defects and other complications therefore this is a matter of safety and neglect to inform citizens of potential risk. I support HB 174 and highly encourage the addition of labeling of ALL GENETICALLY MODIFIED FOODS. Mahalo, Robert Kealohapumehana Domingo

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Testimony Submitted to the

HOUSE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

Rep. Jessica Wooley, Chair
Rep. Richard Onishi, Vice Chair

DATE: Monday, February 4, 2013
TIME: 9:30 a.m.
PLACE: Capitol Auditorium
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

by

Richard M. Manshardt, Professor
Department of Tropical Plant & Soil Sciences
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources
University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa

REGARDING **HB 174**, RELATING TO FOOD LABELING. Prohibits sale of genetically engineered food or raw agricultural commodities in Hawaii, unless so labeled.

My name is Richard Manshardt. I am a professor and plant geneticist in CTAHR at UH Manoa. I have 30 years of research and teaching experience in crop sciences at UH, including conventional crop breeding and development of virus-resistant, genetically engineered (GMO) papaya varieties for Hawaii growers. I am providing testimony on my own behalf, not officially presenting the position of CTAHR or UH on this bill.

I respectfully oppose HB 174.

This bill purports to give consumers “informed choice” with regard to foods produced from genetically modified organisms (GMOs). In my view, the bill emphasizes choice, rather than information, as it offers no valid reason for requiring a label to distinguish GMO foods from those that are non-GMO. If mandated labeling is to have any value, the message must be factual and based on scientific data.

The reason that HB 174 fails to provide justification for a labeling requirement is simply that there is no valid evidence for a health or safety risk from GMO products. All currently commercialized GMO commodities have been extensively tested for safety by developers and reviewed and approved by three federal agencies (USDA, EPA, FDA). In the specific case of the virus-disease-resistant Hawaiian papayas, with which I am personally familiar, no harmful environmental, agricultural, or human health issues were found in seven years of testing during development or fourteen years of production after commercial release, involving more than 250 million pounds of GMO fruit. These findings are substantiated by many professional and scientific organizations (including the American Medical Association and U.S. National Academy of Sciences), which have endorsed the evidence that GMO crops are no riskier than their non-GMO counterparts.

I think this bill is based on groundless fears promoted, in part, by anti-GMO activists and certain marketers of organic products, who profit from public distrust of the safety of conventional agricultural products. Organic foods are defined as non-GMO in the National Organic Standards, and are therefore the default choice for consumers spooked by the barrage of negative disinformation about conventionally produced and GMO foods.

The implementation of HB 174 would have other detrimental effects besides promulgating disinformation. There will be a considerable cost for producers to maintain separate food chains for non-GMO and GMO products, as well as for the State, which will be saddled with the issue of monitoring and enforcement. The dollar amount aside, any cost associated with a pointless label is too much. The issue of “choice” is an illusion, when there is no valid basis for a distinction. Furthermore, requiring labels that have no bearing on the nutritional quality or safety of the product opens the door to a host of special interests with similarly irrelevant messages to promote.

For the reasons above, I suggest that legislators **deny passage of HB 174.**

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 2:18 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: r.souzasolar@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ryan Souza	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: GMO's have the potential of taking over every aspect of our food production by 100% and soon will strip us of ever having any kind of choice to enjoy organic and chemical free products. The fact that this bill is the least that we can ask of our government to control the total take over of GMO industries is sad, but it still gives the people some control of our own lives by allowing us to still have the choice. Choice is synonymous with freedom. Having no choice is dictatorship.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 7:28 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: davinci5@mac.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Scott STODDARD	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support GMO labeling. The science is inconclusive. The cost is negligible. The government has a responsibility to its citizens to keep them informed so they may choose to opt out of the GMO experiment.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 1:12 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: swiddifield@msn.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Scott Widdifield	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Companies should be required to provide consumers with immediate, transparant, accurate information regarding the products sold for consumption. I support labels for GMO products.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 2:44 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: sherrie@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sherrie Moore	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support the labeling of GMO's. We have the right to know what is in our food/how it is produced, in order to make informed decisions.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 5:10 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: kelpal2003@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sheryl K. Palmer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please vote for the labeling of any product containing GMO's. If the GMO companies are proud of their product and unafraid of consumer negativity towards their product, they should be happy to have GMO foods labeled as such.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 4:48 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: haysamsongs@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sheryl Samuel	Individual	Support	No

Comments: It is very important to us to know what we are eating everyday. We try to buy all organically grown food, and would like to avoid any chemical or genetically modified food. The only way this is possible is if is clearly labelled. Please consider this a priority for Hawaiian residents. Mahalo for paying attention to our needs and requests.

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Simon Russell
Hui 'O Mālama 'Āina
910-A E. Kuiaha Rd
Haiku, HI 96078

Aloha Honorable Representatives,

I am writing to support HB 174. We need to know what foods contain GMO technology. If we are not able to track these novel foods, we will never know if they have any side effects. Please get this labeling law passed, whatever it takes, labeling food not GMO is not good enough, we must know where the biotech products are. I do not want to eat these foods, and believe that I have a right to know what foods I buy contain them, and do not think the burden of proof should be on the people that don't produce them.

Respectfully Submitted,
Simon Russell
Owner and Farmer
Hui 'O Mālama 'Āina

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 11:49 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Gratefulsal76@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stacey Tucker	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support labeling all GM foods in Hawaii!!! Mahalo

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onishi1-Jerry

From: Sunny Massad [smassad@me.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 5:13 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Subject: Vote "yes" on labeling!

I implore you to pass a bill that would allow for labeling of GMO foods.

Many people, including myself, are having gastrointestinal problems in the past few years and have even become allergic to the new hybrid wheat gluten. With our children suffering from ADHD and autism and our adults becoming more and more allergic to foods, the first line of protection is to give us the choice to buy organic food that is free of pesticides, dyes, and preservatives.

If GMO food is so great for the body, why is there so much opposition to labeling them? It costs pennies to add word to a label!

For those of us who care about our health and about what we put in our bodies, please pass the bill that would enforce labeling on produce and any item that has GMO ingredients!

Sunny Massad, Ph.D.
President of the Hawaii Wellness Institute Honolulu, Hawaii

onishi1-Jerry

From: Susan [skilleen8@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 3:37 PM
To: Rep. Jessica Wooley
Cc: AGRtestimony
Subject: HB 174

House Committee on Agriculture
HB 174

Monday, February 4th, 2013 at 9:30a.m.

Committee Chair Representative Jessica Wooley House Auditorium at Capitol Building

Dear Representative Wooley,

I respectfully request that you support HB 174 which would allow for the labeling of GMO ingredients in our food. As consumers we need to have the right to buy those products that will keep our families healthy. Many of us deliberately choose those foods that will add to a healthy life style and yet we have discovered that we have been deceived for many years.

Too many studies have been done that bring into question the safety of such modified foods. Symptoms of autism and leaky gut syndrome have been alleviated by eliminating GMO products.

And Certainly corporate greed underlies this effort to literally control the output of GMOs. There have been cases of farmers' fields being seeded accidentally by GMO seeds from neighboring fields, and these same farmers have been sued for not purchasing the GMO seeds.

As consumers we deserve to know what we are buying. Current labeling informs us of ingredients and various preservatives so that we can make choices as to what we will ingest in the name of food. Genetically modified organisms should be clearly labeled.

Help us make Hawaii the first to expect honest labeling for GMO ingredients.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Susan Killen

1570 Bertram St.
Honolulu,
HI 96816
808-373-2288

Sent from my iPad

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 4:49 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: naritaslee@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Law	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We want GMO labeling and SUPPORT HB174! Please pass this bill so we the people can chose what we eat, because it's properly labeled. Thank you for reading, aloha, Susan Law

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 3:11 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: svickery@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Vickery	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 3:33 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: sueperb33@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Werb	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please pass this bill. It is common sense. I have the right to know as a consumer what I am buying and putting in my body. The FDA is not protecting anyone from anything. We all have the responsibility to do our research and make our own educated choice but can not do so without information. America looks foolish and rather deceitful - so many other nations require labeling or have banned GMOs. This constitutes corporate fascism. The materials in cushioning require labeling that, if removed, is a punishable crime. If what we sit on has to be labeled, then so should the food we eat!

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 7:28 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: suzzana@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
suzzana goodwin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Any Genetically altered food should be labeled so my family has the freedom to choose. These corporations make plenty of money to do the labeling. They are afraid to identify the food in case of liability and should be. Please make a law that will help protect people from the GMO health hazard.

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2/3/2013

Regarding bill: HB174

I am in support of labeling of any foods which have been genetically engineered. It is evident from most of Europe's position on this subject, there are too many risks involved. Why do we not have stricter laws in the USA? Let Hawaii be the first to demand this labeling as we have been targeted by these biotech companies to experiment with food on our aina. This must be stopped. This is for our future and our children.

There are many studies now coming out with animals who have suffered from eating GE foods as well as other animals. This is an issue of money and greed. Please do the right thing for our future.

Mahalo,

Tami Winston
President
Photo Resource Hawaii Inc.

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 12:35 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: alohalways@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tanja Miller	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:24 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: taraporterwalsh@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tara Walsh	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We as U.S citizens have the right to know if our food source we purchase is GMO.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:02 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Realeyesohana@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tarah Bartlett	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 3:34 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: prakashmackay@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Thomas Mackay	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Legislators I have not given my permission to being a part of this outrageous science experiment I hope that you will use your power to protect my right to know what I am eating by labeling foods containing GMO's sincerely Thomas Mackay M.A.

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2/3/2013

Regarding bill: HB174

I am in support of labeling of any foods which have been genetically engineered. It is evident from most of Europe's position on this subject, there are too many risks involved. Why do we not have stricter laws in the USA? Let Hawaii be the first to demand this labeling as we have been targeted by these biotech companies to experiment with food on our aina. This must be stopped. This is for our future and our children.

There are many studies now coming out with animals who have suffered from eating GE foods as well as other animals. This is an issue of money and greed. Please do the right thing for our future.

Mahalo,

Tami Winston
President
Photo Resource Hawaii Inc.

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 1:15 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: tvandevveer76@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Timothy Vandevveer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Honorable Chairperson and Committee: Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of the passage of HB 174. As the son of a Vietnam Veteran who suffers from the effects of Agent Orange, this bill and its ramifications are extremely important to me and my family. I strongly support passage of this bill for the following reasons:1.Under the National Organic Program, genetic modification (GM) is not approved for use in the production of organic foodstuffs. The production of GM foods presents the risk of contamination in the growing, processing and handling of foodstuffs and thus GM foods pose an economic threat to organic agriculture and farming which is a fast growing sector of Hawaii's economy.2.Food production should be moving towards more sustainable methods of agriculture, food and farming (i.e. not using harmful chemicals such as insecticides, herbicides, chemical fertilizers etc.) that respect Hawaii's unique ecosystem and drawing on knowledge from traditional Hawaiian agricultural practices. GM foods are moving in the opposite direction and result in increased chemical use in the production of food.3.Consumers have the right to know whether the foods they eat are produced using genetic modification techniques; the overwhelming majority of consumers want to know whether the foods they consume are genetically modified or not.4.There are unknown human health and environmental risks associated with genetically modified foods. Without labeling consumers will be unable to identify genetically modified foods and won't know if they are consuming them or not.Please vote in favor of HB 174.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 7:12 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: creekertodd@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
todd anderson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: People have the right to know what they are putting in their body. If GMO is so great you would think they would want it labeled, but it is a BIG lie, so the GMO companies are trying to cover it up. PLEASE DO WHAT IS RIGHT FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC. Not Controlling this industry is a crime against humanity.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 7:57 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: xion_ok@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Todd Young	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 6:20 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: woolfcat@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
tom woolf	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this labeling bill. If we know what all the other ingredients are it is paramount to know if they have been genetically modified. They are messing around with the key to life on this planet, like ignorant little children in a candy factory. All the truly independent studies indicate huge problems and many nations have banned GMO completely!

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 7:44 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: tywesthoff@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tyler Westhoff	Individual	Support	No

Comments: To the Committees: I don't know a single person that, given the choice, would willingly choose a GMO product over a NON-GMO product. If only they knew!! Labeling is the first step in taking away the power of the enormous corporate chemical companies that are controlling our food and agriculture. Please do the right thing and give the citizens the INFORMATION that they deserve to have about their food. Thank you Tyler Westhoff 1804 Poki St, Honolulu HI, 96822

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:14 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: kauaimagic@mac.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Veronika Bajwa	Individual	Support	No

Comments: It is everyone's right to know what if their food is genetically modified or not!! It is common sense to include that information on labeling.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 6:42 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: tropicmoon@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
vicki wells	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We should have the right to know what's in our food. Other countries have banned GMO foods, why is it okay in the United States? Something is very wrong here.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:00 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: amplesurf@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wilkie McClaren	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please note, imy last submission i accidentally clicked "oppose" but i support this bill!,,i believe it is the very least our right to have our food labelled for genetically modified ingredients. That way all the people who want food and seed designed by a chemical company with pesticides inside and distorted dna can suss it out and buy it for themselves and their loved ones. And those who know it's poison can of course more easily avoid it. It only makes sense. Otherwise we really are more third world than most other countries that give their citizens at that respect; that they should be allowed to know what they eat. Thank you

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 7:01 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: hunafive@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William Howes	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please protect our us and our children from the dangers of GMO food my passing this bill into law. All of Europe and Japan require food which contains GMO's to be labelled. We should do the same in the US especially in Hawaii! Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 2:21 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: wochinadoll.ozoa9@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM*

HB174

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Willynn Ozoa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Feb. 4, 2013

Testimony of Wynnie Hee in OPPOSITION to HB174 RELATING TO FOOD LABELING

Chair Wooley, Vice-Chair Onishi, and Members of the House Committee on Agriculture:

I support local agriculture by shopping at farmers' markets and buying "island fresh" as much as possible.

GMO lobbyists have persuaded the Honolulu City Council and many state legislators to oppose any law requiring the labeling of genetically engineered food products because that would "increase the cost to consumers." Really?

How much does it increase the cost to consumers to label products "island fresh" or "Hawaii grown"? If a farmer at a farmers' market puts a label in front of his papayas that says "This product is genetically engineered," or "Genetically Engineered Papaya," how much does that increase the cost to consumers?

Not too long ago, a strange thing happened when trans fats were added to food labels. Trans fats seemed to disappear from foods: Their labels showed 0% trans fat, even if it was not true. Food industry lobbyists were so powerful that when the law finally passed, it allowed that if a food contained less than 1% trans fat, it could be rounded down to 0%. How much did that increase the cost to consumers to have trans fats added to food labels?

Then our GMO lobbyists will make the argument that trans fat labeling is a national law, but for the small state of Hawaii, which imports about 85% of its food, to require labeling of GE food products would raise the cost to consumers by up to 40% -- because almost all processed food products contain GMO corn or GMO soy ingredients such as high-fructose corn sweetener, maltodextrin, soy lecithin, soy protein isolate, or any of the hundreds of other food ingredients made from corn, soy, or some other GMO product.

So I have to ask you: Why did the Committee on Agriculture choose to hear this bill and cancel the hearing on HB733, a more reasonable bill that would require only the labeling of GMO whole foods -- such as a whole papaya or a whole tomato -- a more limited bill that would be far more helpful to interested consumers like me, who want to know what we are buying and feeding our families? Instead, why did the Committee on Agriculture choose to hear a more cumbersome bill that would have a far slimmer chance of being passed?

Raising the cost to consumers is not the real reason labeling of GE food is so vigorously opposed. GMO companies want consumers to remain ignorant about what they are eating because ignorance is bliss.

The real reason GMO companies oppose labeling is not out of consideration for consumers' pocket books; they are afraid of "the yuck factor." A fairly recent example is "pink slime." When it got picked up by the media and consumers learned that Lean Finely Textured Beef was beef scraps with the fat melted off, then pureed and sterilized with ammonia--YUCK! Nobody wanted to eat it anymore. Latest example is an ingredient in Gatorade, "brominated vegetable oil," a patented flame retardant-- YUCK! Gatorade responded immediately by changing the formula, even though it still claimed BVO was safe for human consumption.

But most Hawaii consumers are not like that. They love SPAM and don't care even if you tell them what it's made of. GMO papaya saved the papaya industry, and even the Japanese are importing

and eating them now, as long as they are labeled GMO. So why can't we label them here in Hawaii where they are grown? There are some consumers like me who want to know.

I knew Rainbow papayas were genetically engineered, named after the University of Hawaii that created them by inserting papaya ringspot virus genes into papaya DNA, but I thought the Kamiya papayas were not. I was shocked to learn that all this time I was going out of my way to buy them, thinking they were natural – but they too were GMOs. Why couldn't they be labeled?

A few weeks ago, I went to the farmers' market at Ala Moana Shopping Center for the first time. I was surprised to see a booth with a sign, "NON-GMO KAHUKU PAPAYAS." I didn't believe it. I went up to the booth and said, "I thought all the Kahuku papayas were GMO. Ken Kamiya told me so." He said, "No," that he never stopped growing the regular papayas. He explained that he can only put up his sign at a non-Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation farmers market and that at a HFBF market (KCC, Mililani, Blaisdell, and Kailua), he is not allowed to label his papayas "non-GMO." Why is that? Does that raise the cost to consumers? Why does GMO lobbyist and HFBF president Dean Okimoto want me to be ignorant when I shop at their farmers' markets?

I try to be an informed consumer. I believe that what you don't know CAN hurt you, and I prefer to err on the side of caution. I realize the vast majority of consumers would probably prefer "ignorance is bliss." They would not care if they were eating GMO cow poop, as long as it was tasty and they didn't have to know what it was, but I WANT TO KNOW.

But I want to know if the papayas I am buying are GMOs or not. I want to know if the fresh corn on the cob, the tomatoes, and zucchini I buy are GMOs or not. There are genetically engineered versions of all these food crops and more. Why are consumers in Japan and European countries allowed to know, but I am kept in the dark?

I support the labeling of GMO whole foods as stipulated in HB733, and I oppose HB174 because I think it was **designed to fail**. It is too cumbersome to implement. The persons or lobbyists who wrote this bill must be well aware that some form of GE corn, soy, or other GE crop are ingredients in almost every processed food in grocery stores. I think HB174 was written to make the point that the GE genie is out of the bottle and cannot be corked.

However, I hope it is still not too late for a hearing on HB733, which would be far more helpful to consumers who want to be informed as we buy local produce at our Hawaii farmers markets and grocery stores.

Thank you for hearing my plea.

PLEASE NOTE:

The FDA approved GMO foods without being labeled for political reasons: "Secret [FDA] memos made public by a lawsuit show that the overwhelming consensus even among the FDA's own scientists was that GMOs can create unpredictable, hard-to-detect side effects. They urged long-term safety studies. But the White House had instructed the FDA to promote biotechnology, and the **agency official in charge of policy was Michael Taylor, Monsanto's former attorney, later their vice president. He's now the US Food Safety Czar.** [Retrieved from <http://www.responsibletechnology.org/10-Reasons-to-Avoid-GMOs>]

No research has ever been done to prove that genetically engineered or transgenic organisms are safe for human consumption. GMOs have not been proved harmful, but there is some research that indicates there are dangers.

“In 1989, dozens of Americans died and several thousands were afflicted and impaired by a genetically altered version of the food supplement – L-tryptophan. A settlement of \$2 billion dollars was paid by Showa Denko, Japan’s third largest chemical company. (Mayeno and Gleich, 1994).” [Retrieved from <http://www.disabled-world.com/fitness/gm-foods.php>]

“A new study in France has found genetically modified maize to have devastating effects on the health of lab rats — which could indicate risks for other biological creatures, including humans. For two years, these rats were fed a diet of 33% genetically modified corn developed by Monsanto. The results are horrific. The rats “developed tumours the size of ping-pong balls, liver damage and digestive problems” according to the study. This could be enough for France to convince the entire European Union to ban the production of the genetically modified corn, specifically called ‘NK603,’ if the French health agency Anses can back up the findings of the study. Russia has already called for a temporary ban on the product.” [Retrieved from http://eugenicsanddepopulation.blogspot.com/2012_10_07_archive.html]

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 4:03 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: islandcounsel2004@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB174 on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM

HB174

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
yvonne jayne	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I simply want to say that knowing what my family and myself are eating is a basic right. I do not want to be kept in the dark any longer. Please support GMO food labeling. Thank you. Yvonne Jayne

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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