



Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.

P O Box 437199 Kamuela HI 96743
Phone (808) 885-5599 • Fax (808) 887-1607
e-mail: HICattlemens@hawaii.rr.com

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS
Monday February 4, 2013 11:00 a.m. Auditorium

HB 631 Relating to Food

Authorizes display on qualified food offered for retail sale a label stating "not genetically engineered" or "does not include a genetically engineered ingredient" if the statement is true. Makes an untrue statement a violation.
Allows any person or public agency to seek an injunction to prevent or terminate a violation.

Chair Wooley, Chair Tsuji, Vice Chairs and Members of the Committees:

My name is Alex Franco; I'm a beef processor on Maui and 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 have over 130 members and occupy approximately 25% of the State's total land mass.

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council **Strongly Supports** HB 631.

We think it makes a lot of sense, for GMO free products to be allowed to label their products as such, placing it as a premium product in some people's mind. That premium price could then more than pay for adding a label stating the product is GMO free.

Whole Foods has been a great partner in getting locally grass fed beef into their stores in Hawaii and has been a leader in giving their customers what they want by providing them with label information that clearly states label claims. They offer organic foods, GMO Free foods, natural foods, and 5 different levels of meats. They don't force producers to label their product GMO or non-organic, but they have signs by food bins letting consumers know if the food in the bin is organic, natural or GMO Free. .

Thank you for allow me the opportunity to give you my testimony.

My name is Alan Gottlieb, and I am a rancher and the Government Affairs Chairperson of the Hawaii Cattlemen's Council. The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc. (HCC) is the Statewide umbrella organization comprised of the five county level Cattlemen's Associations. Our 130+ member ranchers represent over 60,000 head of beef cows; more than 75% of all the beef cows in the State. Ranchers are the stewards of approximately 25% of the State's total land mass.

HCC along with our National Organization, the National Cattlemen's Beef Association has always felt that labeling, such as Country of Origin labeling, should be a market driven tool, not a regulatory one. HCC support all types of farming & ranching; Natural, organic, conventional and cutting edge (including GMO, or other science advanced forms) and does not try to endorse one over the other. We don't see that the advancement of one, should be at the risk or detriment of the other. In fact, in the beef industry, we believe it is detrimental for all, if one attempts to market their product by saying or implying the other is bad for consumers. We believe we need to support each other and market our own niche with sensitivity.

There is no rational science based reason to "warn" consumers about GMO products. The FDA regulates all food labeling in the United States, and in their scientific judgment, there is no significant difference between foods produced using biotechnology and their conventional counterparts. With over one trillion servings of biotech foods consumed by the public, there has never been a documented incident of any harm to the health of consumers.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify on this very important issue.



Hawaii Crop Improvement Association

Growing the Future of Worldwide Agriculture in Hawaii

Testimony by Alicia Maluafiti
HB 631 – Relating to Food
The House Committee on Agriculture
Monday, February 4, 2013
11:00 a.m., Auditorium

HCIA 2012-2014 Board of Directors

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Alan Takemoto

Past President

Fred Perlak

Executive Director

Alicia Maluafiti

Position: Support

Aloha Chairs Wooley and Tsuji, Vice Chairs Onishi and Ward, and members of the Committees:

My name is Alicia Maluafiti, Executive Director of the Hawaii Crop Improvement Association, a nonprofit trade association representing Hawaii seed farmers. We support HB 631 which is a very innovative approach to addressing the concerns raised by those people wishing to avoid eating foods with genetically engineered ingredients.

Label it GMO Free!

The simplest, fairest and most economical response to the people that want to avoid eating GMO foods is to label foods **GMO FREE**. Living in the United States, our people have a wonderful choice of foods to eat. Those people that are more particular because of the health, religious or lifestyle reasons know exactly what foods to look for to accommodate their eating choices. Since we know that 80 percent of the food in the supermarkets contains genetically engineered ingredients, **it just makes more sense to label the other 20 percent of foods GMO Free**. These foods currently take up fewer shelves in the supermarket and therefore would be easier for not only the consumer to identify those foods (conspicuously marked GMO FREE), but less costly for the regulators to implement and enforce a voluntary food labeling initiative.

This option makes even more sense when you consider the families that would bear the burden of a costly GMO food labeling mandate on the majority of food being sold today. Most of our families in Hawaii are struggling during these tough economic times. A new study by the nonpartisan Institute of Taxation and Policy says that Hawaii not only has the highest cost of living in the country, we have some of the highest overall taxes on the poor. We buy our food based on price – not on ingredients or brand or food process.

So it is absolutely pono for those that want a label to label their own food and continue paying the premium price that they are accustomed to. Otherwise, those higher grocery costs to label all the GMO food would be what amounts to as a tax in order to label 80 percent of the food just so a few people can more easily identify the remaining 20 percent of the food that they only want to eat. This initiative clearly addresses our right to affordable food and allows a voluntary GMO Free labeling program to move forward without impacting the majority of food and the majority of us (the people that care more about price!).

Mahalo for the allowing me to testify on behalf of the many families who are working two jobs to put GMO food on the table. Aloha!

91-285 Fort Weaver Rd.

Ewa Beach, HI 96706

Tel: (808) 224-3648

director@hiaonline.com

www.hciaonline.com

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 12:52 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: angelavideotron@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments: Agriculture Committee & Econ. Development & Business Monday, February 04, 2013 11:00 A.M. Auditorium, State Capitol Regarding Opposition to HB631 Aloha Representatives, HB631 is not a good piece of legislation and should not be passed. the labeling of genetically modified foods should be the legislative priority - not the labeling of non-GMO foods. Genetically modified carries the health risk and those manufacturers should bear the burden of labeling their product. Organic and non-GMO food producers could potentially be unfairly penalized for pollen/genetic drift from GMO crops under this bill. HB631 should be stopped before it hurts Hawaii's organic industry. Sincerely, Angela Breene angelavideotron@gmail.com Haleiwa, HI 96712

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:02 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: anneu11@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann Eu	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

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Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 8:13 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: annoshiro@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann Oshiro-Kauwe	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 4:02 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: suiteness@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Annie Suite	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 10:45 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: barb@punapono.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Cuttance	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly appose this HB631. The people of Hawaii deserve better and are counting on you to protect them from bad legislation. Please do not pass this bill. 14/266 Papaya Farms Road, Paho, Hawaii 96778

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 8:30 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: watsonblake8@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 5:27 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mauibrad@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 6:39 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: diamondbranchhi@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 7:08 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: bpoprocker@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM
Attachments: 488351_3667121676632_1185613087_n.jpg

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments: I am writing in strong opposition to the labeling of Non-GMO foods as we already have the Non-GMO Project for that. People need to know what food is genetically modified, not what is not. That is why we have GMO labeling in 63 other countries now. The Center for Food Safety, Cornucopia, Alliance for Natural Health, and Institute for Responsible Technology show reason for it among many others. GMO labeling will be more clearer and precise. Its the foods people know that are genetically modified more than not that people, such as myself, want to know about.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 10:44 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Cjmellor626@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:07 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: peepail@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christopher Kasak	Occupy Monsanto (OWS~Maui)	Support	No

Comments: Stop the Frankenfish! Protect the fishermen! Bill prohibits the sale of genetically engineered fish or genetically engineered fish products in the State beginning 1/1/2014 unless appropriately labeled as genetically engineered or produced or partially produced with genetic engineering. Amended to include GMO whole food labeling language from SB1290 to label all GM fish and GM whole foods (as opposed to products with GMO ingredients that have been processed.)
*Passed ENE 01/31/13, referred to CPN, urge CPN Chair to appoint hearing. Just label it!

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:20 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Sira.12@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christy Kalama	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Strongly oppose. I believe that it is not necessary to mandate that companies label their products non-gmo. Although I have taken notice that organic/health brands are already doing so and labeling their products with a Non-gmo verification in order to provide customers with a label that the other side is unwilling to show. The demands for GMO labels are being made by a growing number of consumers for businesses/companies/corporations who know full well that their product is sourced from Genetically Modified Materials. I don't see the necessity for small local farmers to be responsible for such labels. Gmo- seeds are moving fast and small farmers/family business will suffer had they not known that their seeds were a GMO one. Un-intended businesses will suffer and pay the consequences for a seed that they did not create. Obviously, such a bill is the result of an unfair game being played by a party intending for all small/organic farmers to suffer with those who would be required to label their GMO products. I hope that this tactic will be seen for what it is, an unfair and dirty game.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 2:04 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: collardgreen@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments: Mahalo for your consideration of my testimony OPPOSING a label on food not containing GMO ingredients. These conventionally and organically produced foods do not present the potential risk that GMO foods do. With labels on GMO foods, it becomes unnecessary to label non-GMO foods.

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Aloha Representatives,

I strongly oppose HB631. To say or claim that regular foods grown organically is the exact same as Genetically modified is a lie to the consumer. I feel the only entities who benefit from a bill like this are the Biotech industries.

As a resident of Oahu I oppose this bill and hope that you will consider to do the same for the health and safety of our Keiki and the people of Hawaii

Mahalo
Cora Piliwale
Waianae, HI

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 6:02 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: corey@bigislanddairy.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

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

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:13 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: djpro127@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments: There is no need for this legislation. The burden of labeling should fall upon the companies producing GMO foods, not the other way around. They are the ones doing the polluting, they are the ones doing the experimenting, they are the ones the people are concerned about. It would be an unfair burden to make the non-gmo farmers and producers responsible for labeling and would increase their liability and vulnerability to the unethical lawsuits that biotech companies have a reputation for pursuing against them.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 6:06 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: earlewave@hawaiiintel.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

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

Comments:

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To whom it may concern,

My name is Daryl Nishita. I lived here on Oahu all my life. As a resident I oppose HB631. I feel it is dangerous to pass bills that will hide the truth from the consumer.

Again, I oppose HB631

Mahalo Nui Loa!
Daryl Nishita
Pearl City, Hawaii



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 631
RELATING TO FOOD

Auditorium
11:00am

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 conveys that it supports the intent of HB 631 related to food.

HFBF definitely wants consumers to be engaged and involved in the food they are buying. HFBF believes that food producers, food processors, food manufacturers, food retailers, and food service establishments should have every right to designate or differentiate their food products by marketing and advertising statements made publically on food packaging and menus. HFBF supports the voluntary identification by food retailers of stating that a food is "not genetically engineered" or that a food "does not include a genetically engineered ingredient" as long as the food retailer acts in good faith and reasonably believes that the statement is true.

HFBF is concerned about the current language related to the injunctive relief provisions of HB 631. HFBF believes that the injunctive relief provision as currently drafted will be a strong deterrent for food supply chain participants to adopt designating food products as being "not genetically engineered" or "does not include a genetically engineered ingredient." The injunctive relief provisions as drafted would likely clog the courts with claims against food supply chain participants by litigiously-inclined members of the

public who seem to bring forward endless nuisance lawsuits. These civil lawsuits are expensive to defend and even when the defendant prevails against the litigiously-inclined plaintiff, there are many times very few assets available to the defendant to recoup the costs of litigation and defense.

HFBF believes there are adequate “truth in advertising” protections afforded consumers related to food purchases and that the injunctive relief provisions of HB 631 should be stricken to encourage more food supply participants to adopt identifying foods that are “not genetically engineered” or a food product that “does not include a genetically engineered ingredient.”

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

onishi1-Jerry

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Submitted on: 2/3/2013

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dorothy morse	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 8:15 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: edygoeshawaiian@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Edith Hall	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I *****Strongly Oppose *****the bill HB631

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: esfhawaii@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

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Submitted on: 2/4/2013

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

Comments: No tax breaks for GMO seed.

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Submitted on: 2/4/2013

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

Comments: I'm worried about my health and my loved ones health. I do 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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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Emily M Hoots	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 8:12 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: akamaimom@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

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Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments: I believe the burden of gmo-labeling should be on the gmo foods. That said, it seems there are already gmo free labels. It should be legal for gmo- free foods to say so. GMO foods need to be labeled that they contain gmo as is stated in hb631.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 8:46 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: tamf002@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Frank Tam	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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MONSANTO CO.
94-520 KUNIA ROAD
KUNIA, HAWAII 96759

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

FEBRUARY 4, 2013
11:00 AM

TESTIMONY ON HB 631
RELATING TO FOOD

Chair Wooley, Vice Chair Onishi and committee members:

My name is Fred Perlak, Vice President of Research and Business Operations for Monsanto Hawaii. We **support** HB 631 which authorizes the display of qualified food offered for retail sale a label stating “not genetically engineered” or “does not include a genetically engineered ingredient” if the statement is true. Makes an untrue statement a violation. Allows any person or public agency to seek an injunction to prevent or terminate a violation.

This bill could help strengthen the organic certification program by providing additional marketing options of labeling their products and provides consequences if the label is not true. This voluntary labeling provision will give those who can afford to label and market their products with an added layer of regulatory requirements that will help distinguish themselves. This measure would work in conjunction with products labeled “organic” or “natural”.

While this program will affect a very small sector of our food products in the market, we are still concerned on the cost to enforce and implement this program. The state will have to set up a program that can inspect and test all products who voluntarily label their product. However, since this will be a very limited amount of products that could qualify, it may be manageable.

Thank you.

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 8:26 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: gfkonanui@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments: Aloha I oppose HB631. Please donot pass HB631. mahalo

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Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 8:28 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: holly@hollylazo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hollis Lazo	Kauai Island Vacations, Inc.	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 10:01 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: jmccay@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments: Aloha! I strongly oppose this bill. Mahalo and Malama Pono, James McCay 2957 Kalakaua Ave, Honolulu HI 96815

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:29 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: aquaponicsoahu@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jay Ogden	AquaponicsOahu.com	Oppose	Yes

Comments: We are a local community company which provides assistance and services to Oahu residents and community groups to encourage home-grown-food. We also teach organic principles of growing food. Our organization represents hundreds of local individuals who believe that it is the manufacturer's or marketer's responsibility to inform the public on the contents of food they make or sell. This bill places the responsibility on the public which is inappropriate for many reasons, including greater expense and lack of common sense. As the public entrusts these issues to you, our legislators, we are calling on you to listen now as we speak concerning our will to know the content of our food. If you wish to continue in this role as our legislators, it would be best for you to listen to us on this issue. Mahalo, Jay Ogden, President, AquaponicsOahu.com

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 3:58 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: jsacher@kona.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeff Sacher	Individual	Oppose	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: HB631
Hearing Feb 4, 2012 11:00 am

Position: Oppose

Dear Chair Wooley and Members,

I strongly oppose HB631. It stands reality on its head by implying that the new GMO products are the norm, and non-GMO crops are abnormal.

This is part of the biotech industry's campaign to brainwash society, and just what the biotech industry wants. You will not be their pawns, will you?

Please kill this dangerous and unfair Bill immediately.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Jeffrey Parker
Pres., Tropical Orchid Farm, Inc.



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PO Box 1098, Waiialua, HI 96791

Ph: (808) 389-6255 Fax: (808) 625-6742 bigwavetomatoes@gmail.com

Monday, February 4, 2013, Auditorium, State Capitol

**11:00 am HEARING BEFORE THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS**

OPPOSE TESTIMONY ON HB 631

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

Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Ward and Members of its Economic & Business Committee

Via agrtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov and eghtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov respectively

Aloha,

It is an honor, to participate along with you, in a Government of the People, By the People and for the People.

This democratic process alone, exposes outspoken farmers, to a new reality of unnecessary risk of exposure, for mainstream farmers like myself, as the possibility exists of us losing our jobs, given the malicious intent of this bill, that will likely discourage voluntary labeling for Consumer Rights to Know their food. This bill has the appearance to seek and destroy majority of Hawaii Mainstream Farmers, with an injunctive relief clause, regardless of being a volunteer labeling bill, could set limits to access markets in a highly competitive field, for market share, due to possibility of un-founded complaints, too costly to defend legally, particularly for businesses whose livelihood are hands on. We don't need a bill to do voluntary labeling.

My name is Jeanne Vana of North Shore Farms LLC, a small boutique family farm on Oahu, that I own, that requires me to operate on a shoe string budget with a streamlined approach to earn a modest standard of living, in order to contribute

towards humble efforts for a sustainable island community which the farming community and you, I believe, hope to achieve.

Respectfully request, that you oppose HB 631, relating to food that threatens our ability to be honest and reveal, what we believe as the truth, for mainstream farmers, unless we pay to play, to cover ongoing costly testing and monitoring of a qualified product to verify it retains its gmo free origin, just to protect our right to voice what we believe to be truth in labeling, so no misrepresentation of our product can occur, but where contamination can exist unbeknown to us.

This bill, opens up the majority of Hawaii's mainstream farmers to legal disputes in an environment that encourages false complaints that could erode our ability to continue to choose a farming career.

We know there are existing mix seed issues in the Organic industry that allows a level of tolerance. Plus there are reports that GMO biotech companies have successfully sued farmers, when a farmer's crop, unbeknown to them, got contaminated that is patented.

This bill has the appearance that all farms, caught in between the spectrum of the less populated sector of businesses that are Organic and GMO, unfairly burdens the majority of all other farming businesses. Where-by the highly perishable product, are positioned in an unfair marketing disadvantage with the burden of proof and no benefit to even label, for fear of the possibility of contamination of one's product from an unknown source that can occur in nature.

It makes no sense to have a bill that targets the largest sector within agriculture that likely operates on the lowest profit margins of small businesses in Hawaii, that otherwise would label for Consumer Right To Know their food choices, where the means are financially feasible. Labels are inexpensive, testing is not.

If we are serious about growing more food in Hawaii, the passage of this bill will surely result in fewer farmers, due to the threat of liability concerns from potential frivolous lawsuits.

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 9:55 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: giehni@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments: I strongly OPPOSE this bill. The labeling should be on those that contain GMO ingredients and that it's a violation if it's NOT labeled GMO. This bill is only here to confuse us from the bill that I strongly support, HB 174 and HB 733. Stop trying to confuse us. The onus for labeling should be on those who want to HIDE the fact that there IS GMO in our foods. These big companies have the revenue to pay for the labeling and for any fines.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 7:50 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: konanuij001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jerry Konanui	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha mai kakou.....I oppose this Bill HB361.....please donot pass this bill...mahalo

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Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 9:00 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: jessicamitchell51@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jessica Mitchell	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: It seems as if all the PRO-BIO TECH guys are all favoring this bill. Is it just another attempt to confuse the consumer you guys just won't quit shameful we have to fight our own government to save the environment

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:25 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: jimmygomes@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments:

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Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:40 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: farberj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
joe farber	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 12:07 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: kanakaukoa@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments: Our family grow as much of our own as we can and will continue to grow more. We support locally produced foods and are concerned for our and our future kid's health. We have great concerns and reservations about GM food and the increasing control huge corporations like Cargill and Monsanto and others have over our lives, health and health care costs (many which are attributed to the food we eat). We oppose this bill and ask you to not support it. Thank you. Suse and John Lyle

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 9:54 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: julia@hanahou.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments: With all due respect, this bill is backwards. What's needed is an affirmative obligation to label all foods containing GMOs. The onus to inform the public should be on the companies that are producing, distributing and profiting from the GMOs. If I produce salt, for example, and food manufacturers use it in their products, should I then require that anyone who doesn't use it should label their products that the salt is absent?? And the companies that do use it need not say so?? HB631 is unprecedented and appears to be a clear attempt to exempt GMO producers from their responsibility to the general public.

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Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 10:11 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: punakalo@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kaleo Francisco	Hoai Hawaii	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 7:44 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: krzymurray@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments: A backwards bill. We want to label in order to tell whether something contains GMO materials. Shibai.

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Testimony on HB631 Label Not Genetically Engineered Products.

Please oppose this bill.

Those who create patented items and bring them to market should be responsible for the items they create, own, and promote; this includes labeling their products. To place the responsibility of protection from such products on others is to promote a world in which individuals, corporations, and governments can escape responsibility and accountability for the uninvited risks, havoc, and harms they inflict upon others. This promotes an increasingly dangerous world in which innocent people are burdened with the need to protect themselves against the escalating follies of others. It fuels irresponsibility and fear, rather than responsibility and safety.

Katherine Orr

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:01 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: karly.williams@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karly Williams	Babes Against Biotech	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 7:48 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: keith@keithkessler.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments: I support accurate and complete labeling of foodstuffs, including their GMO content.

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: liamg@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Liam Gray	Individual	Oppose	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,

Lorrin 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 6:14 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mark@marksheehan.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Sheehan	HAIku Aina Permaculture Initiative	Oppose	No

Comments: DEAR COMM. MEMBERS, This is a stupid and disgusting piece of legislation that is an insult to the legislature and the people of Hawaii. It is the opposite of what we need. Mr. Tsuji does not represent the people of his district, but represents his true constituency, Monsanto. It is the GMOs that should be labeled. How pathetic and stupid to require real food to be labeled.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 1:19 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: hokuokekai50@msn.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Lacques	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Chairperson Jessica Wooley Committee on Agriculture Monday February 4, 2013 9:30am Capitol Auditorium Testimony in strong opposition of HB 631 Aloha Chairperson Wooley and Committee Members, I stand on submitted testimony from Label It Hawai'i in strong opposition to HB631. Sincerely, Mary Lacques P.O. Box 14 Hale'iwa HI 96712

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LABEL IT HAWAII

P.O. Box 14
Haleiwa, HI 96712
labelithawaii@yahoo.com
www.labelithawaii.org

Chairperson Jessica Wooley
Committee on Agriculture
February 4, 2013 11:00 am
Capitol Auditorium

Honorable Chair Wooley and Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. Label it Hawai'i stands in strong opposition to HB631. Non-GMO foods are already voluntarily labeled by companies. The USDA Organic label is in place for foods grown according to organic standards, which do not allow for production through genetic engineering.

Furthermore, cross contamination by GMO crops is an enormous concern for both organic and conventional farmers. This uncontrolled contamination has resulted in loss of income to companies and farmers and to impose a penalty or violation is a further financial burden.

We urge you to vote no on HB631.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Oyama
Label It Hawai'i

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 8:18 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: maefuimaono@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Me	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: As a Registered Nurse in our community, I feel like we as consumers have a right to know what we are feeding our families. I would like for GMO products to be labeled.

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onishi1-Jerry

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Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 9:16 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: alohamelissag@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments:

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Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 4:42 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mrgach@att.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments: This bill is such a bad idea. I am amazed that such a bill can be up for vote. It would confuse the public and make the labeling process unclear. Please oppose this bill so the public is not fooled by a labeling process that requires an unclear GMO statement.

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: kauaisurfing@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments: Under the circumstances with very few compared protesting worries to do with organic farmers...number one let's take care of labeling the GMO products as that is the worry of the people. Thank you.

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: dragonfinder777@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Pellerin	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: son2k77@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
mike Wong	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mdclark88@yahoo.com
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HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments: I STRONGLY OPPOSE*** HB631 I would consider it an affront to the non-GMO and organic community to pursue this legislation when the majority in Hawaii and 94% of Americans States are calling for the labeling of genetically modified food. GMO foods include risks not otherwise inherent in conventional or organic production.

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HB631

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

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

Comments:

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Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 10:18 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: natalie@nataliebrownphotography.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Natalie Norberg	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: We don't need regulation on foods already labeled NON-GMO. We need regulation and labels for GMO food. We are concerned this legislation unintentionally targets non-GMO and organic farmers whose products may be undesirably contaminated by GMO's and increase hardship on non-GM and organic farmers and manufacturers which would already be experiencing severe negative economic impact if their farms or products were unintentionally contaminated by open air GMO crop production. No one is asking for legislation regarding non-GMO products, our request is that GMO products be labeled. We are not concerned about additional regulation for non-GMO farmers and organic food producers, we are far less concerned about the safety of those products. We are extremely concerned GMO farmers and GMO food producers. Those are the products that need to be labeled and enforced.

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Cc: natashamcintosh1@hotmail.com
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HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Natasha McIntosh	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose this legislation that can directly affect non-GMO farmers who may have been inadvertently contaminated with GMO seeds by nearby GMO farmers. This legislation is not written well and should not be passed. Thank you.

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: zaffbryan@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments:

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In Strong Opposition to HB631
Hawaii House of Representatives
Agriculture Committee Members

February 4, 2013 11:00 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 primarily in Hawaii and has taken a position in strong opposition to HB631 on the following grounds.

HB631 bill places the unnecessary burden of labeling legislation on non-GMO farmers. While we appreciate the intent of this bill to address food labeling concerns, we regard the aim and impact of this bill to be drastically off course in comparison to the feedback and support from our members and supporters for the labeling of GMO foods. Manufacturers and retailers already have the right to label non-GMO, that entire portion of the bill is superfluous and as a democracy we should be seeking to implement the minimal laws that allow for responsible and safe freedoms. Our citizens are concerned about GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS in their food, NOT NON-GMO food. We are also concerned this legislation may unintentionally nullify GM labeling legislation which is the top priority of our members.

The people of Hawaii are seeking legislation and protection and identification for GMO products, not non-GMO products which are already voluntarily labeled by most. We are constituents and citizens, not lobbyists and multi-national corporations. 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. Not a single person demanded that NON-GMO be labeled, nor did anyone demand penalization for those who label them falsely. While it is agreed false labeling of non-GMO products is intolerable, we are extremely concerned this targets non-GMO farmers and manufacturers when your constituents and people across the world are clearly calling for identification and regulation of GMO products.

When non-GMO and organic are now the minority, striving to protect their land here from genetic contamination as the most open air GMO field trials in the world are being conducted on Hawaiian soil, the last thing the non-GMO or organic industry in Hawaii needs is this type of regulation. The last thing the industry at large is labeling burdens, it needs to be the products that 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 are the foods that MUST be labeled. This measure, while it may be well intended, is completely counterproductive and our organization will stand firmly against this legislation in this capacity. This legislation is an utter distraction to what our focus should be on, GMO labeling and how to get GMO's out of Hawaii before it is too late and our resources are fully plundered.

Organic and non-GMO products are already proud to label their products as such, it is the genetically engineered products we can not detect, that are refusing to identify themselves and collecting to spend over \$45 million dollars fighting GMO labeling in California's Prop 37 alone. 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, not non-GMO food labeling. The responsible makers of non-GMO food have already predominantly taken third party verification steps to authentically label their foods, labeling GMO foods are endeavors consumers are committed to.

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 demanding with all due respect, that GMO's be labeled and that this legislation HB631 be stopped here today. While it may be an attempt at compromise, it is actually pulling us even further away from what our constituents are requesting, the labeling of GMO food. A compromise would be passing GMO labeling without banning GMO crops this year. Regarding HB631, in its' ultimate effects we find no merit worth pursuing but are grateful for the opportunity to discuss the reasons we

strongly advise you to drop this altogether and focus in another direction to label GMO's. THAT is what we are asking for.

GMO's are banned at some level in at least 29 countries, 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.

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. Here, of all places, the mere idea to call for non-GMO labeling when GMO labeling is the incessantly repeated call from your constituents, is perturbing. 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 cease GMO related tax breaks at the absolute, bare minimum.

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 work in Hawaii altogether. We are strongly opposed to HB631 and please urge you not to pass this misguided legislation any further. We encourage this body to pursue with all force necessary the labeling of genetically modified foods.

Please focus on what your constituents are asking you for.

Mahalo for considering this testimony in strong opposition to HB631.

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

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Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 10:04 PM
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Cc: pamelaboyar@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pamela Boyar	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

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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. 631
RELATING TO FOOD

February 4, 2013, 11:30 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. 631. Earthjustice opposes this bill, which purports to "authorize" the voluntary labeling of foods not produced through genetic engineering as not genetically engineered.

It is already completely legal to label foods as not genetically engineered. It is already unlawful to fraudulently misrepresent products being offered for sale. This bill therefore offers nothing. It is a transparent effort by those opposed to giving the people of Hawai`i the right to know that a food is genetically engineered to derail efforts to require such labeling, through the pretense of "allowing" the already-legal alternative of labeling of foods that are not genetically engineered.

Labeling a product "not genetically engineered" has already been done for years by those who wish to do so, and in no way reduces the need for labeling genetically engineered foods. It merely places the burden of establishing that a food is not genetically engineered on those producers and merchants who are selling healthier, more environmentally-sound foods, and relieves all of those producers of genetically engineered products from any responsibility whatsoever to the consumer or to society and allows them to continue to keep the public in the dark. This cynical gamesmanship is not in the public interest. This Committee should not be party to it by supporting a measure that pretends to give the people of Hawai`i a right they already

possess, for the sole purpose of undermining their efforts to obtain a right they do not currently possess, but hopeful soon will, with the help of this Committee.

We respectfully ask you not to pass HB631. Thank you again for the opportunity to offer this testimony.

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 7:18 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: paul@kauainature.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments: I support this bill because I believe that it is very important to human and environmental health to know whether or not food has GMO ingredients.

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HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paula mason	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose gmos ! I demand gmo labeling for all products! Consumers need to be aware!

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Cc: pennysfh@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments: This bill penalizes growers of conventional and organic whole food crops by placing the burden of labeling on growers of non-gmo crops rather than on the producers of gmo crops. It also penalizes conventional growers should cross-contamination occur and places them at risk of legal action. This is akin to suing a victim of abuse and telling them it is their fault that they were abused. I would challenge the legality of this bill. It is also well know that gmo papaya and soybeans readily cross-pollinate with conventional plants. These crops place many growers in Hawaii at risk of contamination. As a farmer, I strongly oppose this bill. The responsibility for labeling belongs with those who choose to grow gmo crops not everyone else. Shame on you!

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Submitted on: 2/4/2013

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mr Perry Bream	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I oppose this bill because in my opinion the requirement only serves as a smokescreen for products containing GMO substances. Cigarettes require labelling identifying their possible toxicity. Products that don't carry the threats of nicotine should not be required to identify the lack of that threat. This logic also applies to food.

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HB631 Testimony. Opposition.

I oppose the labeling of Non-GMO because it is NOT what many others and I are looking for in food labeling. It is extra complicated for people who grow and sell non-GMO food. The root force behind this bill is because people want to know if the food is GMO or not. It is much harder to go out and locate all the non-GMO foods while labeling the GMO foods is what we actually want. Don't make the little guy struggle to pay for what the big guy can easily pay for. GMO food producers should be responsible for labeling their own products, not barge in and all of a sudden make everyone else work around them. This bill appears to be a step in the right direction but it is actually a total evasion of the real problem and provides maybe only a short-term solution. Please consider my testimony and the well being of all people in the community!! I sincerely thank you for reading my testimony. Aloha

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 2:07 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: rinatpogai@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rina Moore	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Cc: seanthomas37@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sean Hall	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Seth raabe	Whispering Winds Bamboo Inc.	Oppose	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 4:52 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: haysamsongs@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments: We want to know when there is GMO in our food...not when there is not. Please require labels when there is GMO present only. Mahalo for listening.

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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 oppose HB 631. 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. Labeling food not GMO is not good enough, we must know where the biotech products are. I do not want to eat these foods, (restaurant's won't be able to tell us if the food contains GMO's) 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: Sunday, February 03, 2013 3:12 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: svickery@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments:

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2/3/13

RE: Bill HB631

I am in favor of bill HB174 which required the GMO companies to label their food. The rich Bio-tech companies have enough funds to play with our future, if companies want to include GMO in their foods, they should be the ones to pay for these labeling changes. Those who are not using GMO in their foods should not be required to label. This is backwards. It is like asking all the healthy food to be labeled as healthy. It is a few greedy companies playing with our health, they should be the ones to pay for labeling.

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 HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:27 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: taraporterwalsh@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments: I strongly oppose HB631!

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 7:07 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: creekertodd@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
todd anderson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am strongly against GMO testing here on Kauai! Please do the right thing for the people and NOT the CORPORATIONS. GMO is an attack against the humane race. Mahalo, Todd Anderson

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:02 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: xion_ok@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Todd Young	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 6:26 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: woolfcat@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
tom woolf	Individual	Support	No

Comments: List what it DOESN'T HAVE ?????? Really? Are you serious? Just keep in mind.....we are keeping track of who votes for what. Come reelection time you'd better have all your cards in order.

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 7:47 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: tywesthoff@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tyler Westhoff	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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House Conference Room
FEB 4, 2913
11AM
House Agriculture Committee

HB631 OPPOSE (with humor!)

Aloha Chairman Wooley and Committee,

HB631 is truthfully a ridiculous bill which would be simply unjust if something like this ever passed. It appears to presume that genetical engineering is the standard by which qualified foods should be measured and all "non-genetically engineered" would be a violation. Good gravy! "Qualified food" is not even addressed, nor would it appear to be appropriate,

Can you really imagine that it's wise to penalize those unfairly who eat and use products that are natural and organic and as the divine created in the natural order of things?

The burden of proof and penalties should be directed to the industry creating products that putting humans, animals, our soils at risk from genetic anomalies, attempts to skirt transparency and our right to know what is in our food in every way the GE industry can find to get around it.

It has a long way to go to perfect genetic engineering. Should be done in contained non invasive manner. But, as you know, the genie is out of the bottle!

I think it goes without saying, Do not pass this bill.

Respectfully Submitted,

Unmani Cynthia Groves

Health Care Practice Management Consultant to Professionals
Author/ Researcher

Member:
Ke'alaokamaile Halau
Alliance of Maui Community Assoc member
Kihei Community Associaton Planning Committee member

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 8:20 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: afribaby@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM*

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Valerie Reed	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 7:08 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: hunafive@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB631 on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM

HB631

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for AGR on Feb 4, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William Howes	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am concerned this legislation unintentionally targets non-GMO and organic farmers whose products may be undesirably contaminated by GMO's and increase hardship on non-GM and organic farmers and manufacturers which would already be experiencing severe negative economic impact if their farms or products were unintentionally contaminated by open air GMO crop production. No one is asking for legislation regarding non-GMO products, My request is that GMO products be labeled. Hawaii needs to be concerned about GMO farms, experiments and GMO food products. Those are the products that need to be labeled and enforced. We would consider it an affront to the non-GMO and organic community to pursue this legislation when the majority in Hawaii and 94% of Americans States are calling for the labeling of genetically modified food. GMO foods include risks not otherwise inherent in conventional or organic production. Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

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