

SB 615

RELATING TO LABELING.

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.

Label It Hawaii
P.O. Box 14, Haleiwa, HI. 96712
labelithawaii@yahoo.com
labelithawaii.org

January 31, 2013

Dear Senator Gabbard and members of the Energy and Environment Committee.

My name is Trisha Gonsalves and I represent Label It Hawaii. LIH supports SB615 to label genetically modified fish. In reviewing this bill and acknowledging the concern regarding the genetic modification of food, we respectfully request that the committee consider amending this bill to also include whole foods. Included is our recommendation for an amendment to SB615.

Label It Hawai'i is a grassroots coalition of individuals and organization who believes in the public's right to know what kinds of food they are consuming. We were formed in early 2012 with the goal of educating our communities about the GMO industry and the legal, ethical and health-related issues around GMO (Genetically Modified Organisms) or GE (Genetically Engineered) foods. Mandatory labeling of GMO foods is the norm in many European countries as well as in Japan, yet the United States FDA has not taken responsibility for this basic right-to-know issue.

According to the Hawaii Department of Agriculture, rainbow papaya is individually labeled as "genetically modified" prior to export to Japan. We feel that consumers in Hawaii have the same basic right to know. Consumers should be allowed to make informed choices when shopping.

As part of our educational outreach program, we have begun collecting signatures on a petition demanding the labeling of GMOs. To date, we have collected over 2,000 signatures. Public awareness is growing about this issue and so is the concern regarding untested and unlabeled genetically modified products.

A research study by the National Academy of Science has brought to light an alarming fact. If just 60 genetically modified fish were to be released into a population of 60,000 wild fish, it could lead to the extinction of the wild fish in just 40 generations. This combined with concerns regarding health and environmental issues from the American Academy of Environmental Science (AAEM) and the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) alone warrants labeling. Allow consumers to make that choice.

Respectfully submitted,

Trisha Gonsalves
Label It Hawaii

SECTION 1. Chapter 328, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"§328- Genetically engineered whole food; labeling. (a)

Beginning on July 1, 2014, the sale, offering for sale, or distribution of any genetically engineered whole food intended for human consumption within the State is prohibited unless the fact of genetic engineering is disclosed as follows:

(1) In the case of a raw food, on the package offered for retail sale, with the words "genetically engineered" appearing clearly and conspicuously on the label on the front of the package of the commodity or, in the case of any such commodity that is not separately packaged or labeled, on a clear and conspicuous label appearing on the retail store shelf or bin in which the commodity is displayed for sale;

(2) In the case of all genetically engineered whole foods resulting from the transfer of animal genes into plants, on a clear and conspicuous label that indicates this fact in a manner that will allow vegetarians and those with religious dietary restrictions to observe their dietary guidelines.

(b) This section shall not apply to any of the following:

(1) A raw food that has been raised, produced, or derived without the knowing and intentional use of genetically engineered seed or food.

(2) Food that has been lawfully certified as eligible to be labeled, marketed, and offered for sale as organic pursuant to the federal Organic Food Production Act of 1990, 7 United States Code 6501, et seq., and the National Organic Program regulations promulgated by the United States Department of Agriculture;

(3) Food that is not packaged for retail sale and that is:

(A) A processed food prepared and intended for immediate human consumption; or

(B) Served, sold, or otherwise provided in any restaurant or other food service establishment that is primarily engaged in the sale of food prepared and intended for immediate human consumption; or

(4) Medical food.

(c) This section shall not be construed to require that the term genetically engineered be placed immediately preceding any common name or primary product descriptor of a food."

SECTION 2. Section 328-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding two new definitions to be appropriately inserted and to read as follows:

"Genetically engineered" means produced from an organism or organisms of which the genetic material has been changed through the application of:

(1) In vitro nucleic acid techniques including recombinant deoxyribonucleic acid techniques and the direct injection of nucleic acid into cells or organelles including but not limited to recombinant deoxyribonucleic acid or ribonucleic acid techniques that use vector systems and techniques involving the direct introduction into the organisms of hereditary material prepared outside the organisms such as micro-injection, macro-injection, chemoporation, electroporation, micro-encapsulation, and liposome fusion; or

(2) Fusion of cells, including protoplast fusion, or hybridization techniques that overcome natural physiological, reproductive, or recombination barriers, where the donor cells or protoplasts do not fall within the same taxonomic family, in a way that does not occur by natural multiplication or natural recombination.

"Genetically engineered whole food" means any genetically engineered food in its raw or natural state."

SECTION 3. If any provision of this Act, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of the Act that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are severable.

SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



HAWAII ORGANIC FARMING ASSOCIATION

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Toll Free: 1-877-ORG-ISLE (674-4753)

Wednesday, January 30, 2013

Re: S.B. 615 Relating to the Labeling of Genetically Modified Fish

Committee Members,

HOFA (Hawaii Organic Farming Association) strongly supports the passage of S.B. No. 615 relating to the labeling of genetically modified fish.

HOFA, established in 1994 is an Association of Hawaii organic farmers, distributors, retailers, other organic industry members, and organic consumers. HOFA's vision is to create a sustainable future for Hawaii and our mission is to further organic and sustainable agriculture, land care, and lifestyles in Hawaii, thus giving meaning and life to our state motto: *Ua mau ke ea o ka aina i ka pono* "The Life of the Land is Perpetuated in Righteousness".

HOFA strongly supports 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, including fish farming.
2. Food production should be moving towards more sustainable methods of agriculture, foods and farming methods that are in harmony with nature, i.e. not using harmful chemicals such as insecticides, herbicides, chemical fertilizers etc. GM foods are moving in the opposite direction and their production results in increased chemical use in the production of food, including GM fish which are fed a diet of antibiotics to keep them "healthy" (as if a fish designed to grow to more than twice its normal weight in half the time could ever be "healthy").
3. Consumers have the right to know whether the foods they eat are produced using GM techniques, the overwhelming majority of consumers want to know whether the foods they consume are GM or not.
4. Foods, specifically fish produced using GM are different from fish produced without GM. GM fish have a different genetic makeup than regular fish and contain genetic material from other species of life; this is not possible in the natural environment. Thus GM fish are significantly different than regular fish and should be labeled so consumers can identify the genetically modified fish and avoid them should they choose to do so.
5. There are unknown human health and environmental risks associated with GM foods, especially fish. Without labeling consumers will be unable to identify GM fish and won't know if they are consuming it or not.
6. It should be noted that Alaska has already passed similar legislation.

Please vote in favor of S.B. No. 615.
Sincerely, Mark Fergusson, President

Hawaii Organic Farming Association
Our Vision is to:
Create a sustainable future for Hawaii.
Our mission is to:

Further organic and sustainable agriculture, land care, and lifestyles in Hawaii, thus giving meaning and life to our state motto: *Ua mau ke ea o ka aina i ka pono* "The Life of the Land is Perpetuated in Righteousness".

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 - Dr. Hector Valenzuela
 - Dr. Melissa Yee

SB615

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Henry Curtis	Iilani Media	Support	No

Comments:



HAWAII FOOD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION (HFIA)

1050 Bishop St. Box 235
Honolulu, HI 96813
Fax : 808-791-0702
Telephone : 808-533-1292

DATE: Thursday, January 31, 2013

PLACE: Conference Room 225

TIME: 2:45 p.m.

TO: COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Sen. Mike Gabbard, Chair; Sen. Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair

FROM: Hawaii Food Industry Association: Lauren Zirbel, Executive Director

RE: SB 615 RELATING TO LABELING

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.

Chair & Committee Members:

The Hawaii Food Industry Association respectfully opposes this measure.

The Hawaii Food Industry Association is comprised of two hundred member companies representing retailers, suppliers, producers and distributors of food and beverage related products in the State of Hawaii.

As proposed, this labeling required would be inconsistent to federal requirements, and therefore, costly to implement. Hawaii imports 85% of the food consumed in the state. **Hawaii's food demands are not large enough to force domestic and foreign food suppliers to meet these labeling requirements.** As such, the cost will be borne by Hawaii's food importers and consumers.

The practical reality of enforcing this bill will be a nightmare. If the distributor does not label the fish or advise the retailer that the product is GMO then the retailer is potentially liable for the mislabeling. A retailer cannot identify GMO product by visual or taste inspection.

This is a federal issue and should be dealt with at that level, with the onus for labeling resting with manufacturers and suppliers, not retailers.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

The Asia-Pacific Center for Regenerative Design

4539 Malia St, Honolulu HI 96821

January 29, 2013

State Committee on Energy & Environment
ATT: Senator Mike Gabbard & Senator Russell E. Ruderman
The Senate: Twenty-seventh Legislature
Regular Session of 2013

Dear Senators,

Production of GMO fish utilizes a technology that has been pushed upon the public in the pursuit of corporate profits. GMO technology may pose risks both to the natural ecosystems which they are released into, and to the human populations who consume them:

According to the *Center for Food Safety*:

"GMO fish represent a serious threat to the survival of native (fish) populations, many of which have already suffered severe declines related to salmon farms and other man-made impacts. Research published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences notes that a release of just sixty GE fish into a wild population of 60,000 would lead to the extinction of the wild population in less than 40 fish generations."

"We are very concerned about the potential toxicity, allergenic effects, and diseases posed by the commercialization of transgenic fish. While data on human health impacts of GE fish is sparse, especially since FDA has yet to share the data it has reviewed, some recent studies have provided cause for serious concern. For example, the routine use of antibiotics to control diseases often found in farm-raised fish may already be impacting human health."

The precautionary principle states that if the potentially harmful effects of a technology are not known (whether it be due to the complexity of the ecosystems they are released into, a lack of sufficient testing by regulatory agencies, or a combination of both), then the prudent course of action is to withhold release of that technology.

Being that these products have recently been approved for commercial production & human consumption, the public has a right to know so that we may make an informed decision when it comes to feeding our families.

Labeling GMO food products for what they are is a simple & fundamental step towards enhancing public health, by equipping people with the basic information to make an informed & empowered purchasing decision. I urge the Senate to do whatever it can in its power to protect our most basic human right – having access to safe, healthy food - by labeling the GMO products in our food supply.

Sincerely,

Matthew Lynch
Executive Director

SB615

Submitted on: 1/28/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cathy Goeggel	Animal Rights Hawai'i	Comments Only	No

Comments: Animal Rights Hawai'i opposes the intervention by humans into the genetic makeup of ANY animal. We therefore suggest that SB 615 be amended to include ALL animals.

SB615

Submitted on: 1/29/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melissa L Yee	Seeds of Truth	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this bill SB 615 to label GM fish. Because the fish will be grown in water or in farms, there is a potential risk of contamination from feed or feces and the possibility that some fish will escape from the confines of the net or farm, mingle with other salmon and infect and destroy the salmon population for future generations. In the name of growing a fish faster, science is ignoring the natural development of species through adaptation to its environment. Some people are sensitive to the presence of additives and processing modifications in our food, and the growing numbers of people with allergies, antibiotic resistance and more serious medical conditions reflect back to the poorer quality of the food we are consuming. Consumers have a right to know what they are eating, and to claim that GE foods are "substantially equivalent" is not a scientific argument but a marketing ploy to avoid responsibility for the potential long term detrimental effects of the food. Please support this bill and let us have non genetically engineered fish to grow healthy bodies without genetic aberrations. Dr Melissa L Yee Seeds of Truth Phone 292-1179

SB615

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
MARK SHEEHAN	HAIKU AINA PERMACULTURE INT.	Support	No

Comments: HAPI, The Haiku Aina Permaculture Initiative, is a research, education and training 14 acre organic farm in Haiku, Maui. We strongly support this bill and urge it be passed for the following reasons: 1. Under the National Organic Program, GMOs are not approved for use in organic food products. Use of GMs pose risks of contamination of healthy foods and are a risk to sale of organic produce and well as a threat to farms. 2. HAPI advocates sustainable practices that preclude the use of GMOs as well as chemical insecticides, herbicides, pesticides and fertilizers. GM fish would require continued use of antibiotics to maintain. 3. Consumers want to know what is in their food. They have a right to know. 4. GM fish will be significantly and radically different from natural fish stock. All such products need to be "GMO EXPERIMENTAL FOOD.": 5. This is a radical health experiment with unknown impacts. People do not want to be guinea pigs on untested, dangerous food sources. Please vote in favor of S.B> No. 615



Hawai'i Wildlife Fund

January 30, 2013

Chairman Senator Mike Gabbard
Energy and Environment Committee
Date of Hearing: Jan 31, 2012 2:45pm
Room 225 at the Capitol Building of the Senate

Aloha Honorable Chairman Gabbard and Committee Members:

I am writing as President of a locally-based non-profit conservation organization to **support passage of SB 615** relating to the labeling of genetically modified fish. We believe labeling is only the first step to addressing very real public and scientific community concerns over transgenic organisms. Currently the FDA requires labeling for more than 3,000 ingredients, processes and additives but not for genetically modified or engineered (GE) foods. This lack of labeling does a huge disservice to the consumer, many of whom would choose not to select any food with transgenic ingredients.

Although a committee of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) released a report on the potential risks and benefits of genetically engineered animals (particularly salmon), the Food & Drug Administration (FDA), US Dept of Agriculture (USDA) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have never done any long-term human health nor environmental impact studies of GE foods or crops, despite the fact that FDA's own scientists have concluded that these foods could pose serious risk. Laboratory and field evidence shows that GE crops can harm beneficial insects, transfer GE genes to neighboring crops or wild relatives, and increase herbicide use, thereby generating intractable herbicide-resistant weeds. **The NAS report specifically addressed the potential threat that GE fish could pose to wild fish populations. No one really**

knows what may happen when GE genes are transferred into soil micro-organisms and aquatic life. Many of the more than one million public comments submitted to the FDA to support labeling GE foods focused on these health and environmental impacts.

We applaud the efforts to begin to address the public's concerns about GE foods by the introduction of this important, ground-breaking legislation.

Mahalo nui for your kind kokua for our environment and the public's well-being,

Hannah Bernard

Hannah Bernard

President

Hawai'i Wildlife Fund

Address to: Chairman Senator Mike Gabbard
Energy and Environment Committee
Date of Hearing: Jan 31, 2012 2:45pm
Room 225 at the Capitol Building of the Senate

Honorable Chairman and Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

On behalf of the 3 GMO Free Groups I represent consisting of approx. 3000 plus members, we strongly support SB615.

Jan. 30, 2013

We are very concerned about the contamination and manipulation of nature and deserve the right to know if fish is GMO. We prefer a ban on GMO Fish but in the event that GMO fish become legal to create we feel we deserve to know. Alaska has already implemented a GMO labeling bill.

We 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, including fish farming.

2. Food production should be moving towards more sustainable methods of agriculture, foods and farming methods that are in harmony with nature, i.e. not using harmful chemicals such as insecticides, herbicides, chemical fertilizers etc. GM foods are moving in the opposite direction and result in increased chemical use in the production of food, including GM fish which are fed a diet of antibiotics to keep them "healthy" (as if a fish designed to grow to more than twice its normal weight in half the time could ever be "healthy").

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. Foods, specifically fish produced using genetic modification are different from fish produced without genetic modification. Genetically modified fish have a different genetic makeup than regular fish and contain genetic material from other species of life; this is not possible in the natural environment. Thus genetically modified fish are significantly different than regular fish and should be labeled so consumers can identify the genetically modified fish.

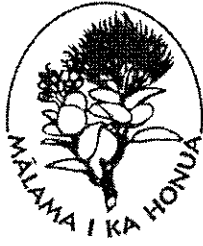
5. There are unknown human health and environmental risks associated with genetically modified foods, especially fish. Without labeling consumers will be unable to identify genetically modified fish and won't know if they are consuming it or not.

Please vote in favor of S.B. No. 615.

Sincerely,
Courtney Bruch
gmofreemaui@gmail.com

GMO Free Maui
GMO Free Oahu
GMO Free Big Island

POB 735,
Makawao HI



Sierra Club Hawai'i Chapter

PO Box 2577, Honolulu, HI 96803
808.538.6616 hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

January 31, 2013, 2:45 P.M.
(Testimony is 1 page long)

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 615

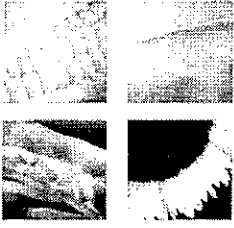
Aloha Chair Gabbard and members of the Committee:

The Sierra Club, Hawaii Chapter, with over 10,000 dues paying members and supporters statewide, respectfully *supports* SB 615. This measure requires labeling of genetically engineered fish or fish products.

Genetically modifying organisms—the practice of splicing DNA from bacteria, viruses and other organisms into plants to lend them certain traits, like resistance to chemical weedkillers—poses extreme risks to our common environment. Manipulation of genetic material by inserting bacteria, plant, animal, and human genes into food products is a radical departure from traditional breeding techniques and represents an unprecedented break with natural processes.

The public is entitled to know more about these potential risks. The public is entitled to be able to make informed decisions about what products they purchase and eat. This may also impact the production of GMO products -- if no one purchases them, will there be a demand to continue producing them? An informed public is able to make informed decisions. To adequately protect the environment and the public health, this bill should be passed.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.



Hawaii Crop Improvement Association

Growing the Future of Worldwide Agriculture in Hawaii

Testimony by Alicia Maluafiti
SB 615 – Relating to Labeling
The Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
Thursday, January 31, 2013
2:45 p.m., Room 225

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Alicia Maluafiti

Position: Opposition

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and members of the Committee:

My name is Alicia Maluafiti, Executive Director of the Hawaii Crop Improvement Association, a nonprofit trade association representing Hawaii seed farmers. **Although Hawaii's seed companies do not raise genetically engineered fish, HCIA strongly opposes Senate Bill 615.**

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has yet to approve the first genetically engineered animal for human consumption. However, they convened its Veterinary Medicine Advisory Committee (VMAC) to consider labeling for a genetically engineered fish, AquaAdvantage Salmon. This salmon was genetically engineered with a gene from a Chinook salmon to allow it to reach its market weight in half the time of the conventionally raised salmon thus contributing to more sustainable aquaculture systems. In all other aspects, the GE salmon are identical to other Atlantic salmon. They are raised in land-based growing facilities operated under strict FDA requirements. Since these salmon are sterile females, the possibility of cross-breeding is eliminated.

In its public release of documents, the FDA scientists declared that the GE salmon is safe to eat and does not pose a threat to the environment. This decision was made after months of input from independent experts, public testimony and 14 years of scientific evidence about the salmon. The FDA stated that their policies on food labeling are not up for debate. They have worked for over a decade to develop a robust system to determine the safety of food and drugs from GE animals. Their regulatory process ensures the products made through genetic engineering go through a rigorous review process before being approved for the marketplace.

We ask that you hold this bill in committee. Mahalo for the opportunity to comment.

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www.hciaonline.com

SB615

Submitted on: 1/31/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ron Weidenbach	Hawaii Aquaculture & Aquaponics Association	Oppose	No

Comments: The HAAA opposes this proposed legislation as an unnecessary cost to the retailer who would have to implement these requirements and to the State who would have to enforce these requirements. This is a technically complex issue that has strong Federal oversight. Further oversight at the State level would be costly, and is unnecessary and unwarranted. Much knowledge has been gained in this area of science since the cited 2002 report. Former opponents of GMO foods are now realizing the overriding importance of feeding a hungry world in a time of global climate change. This is one of the global challenges of our time, increasing yearly, and all scientific options need to be available to address this issue. Let the Federal government provide the appropriate oversight and absorb the costs involved. We do not have the resources locally to justify taking such a strong and potentially problematic legislative step.

SB615

Submitted on: 1/31/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Blake Drolson	GMO Free Kauai	Support	No

Comments: Citizens deserve the right to know if the fish they are buying comes from a farm that grew genetically modified versions. Some people may not want to eat such fish and deserve a label to easily be able to tell which potential fish purchases are gmo free.

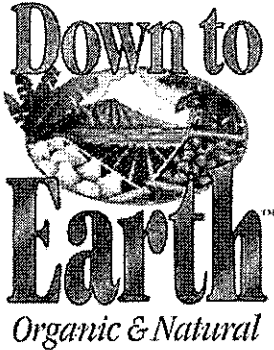
SB615

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

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

Comments: Chairman Senator Mike Gabbard Energy and Environment Committee Date of Hearing: Jan 31, 2012 2:45pm Room 225 at the Capitol Building of the Senate Aloha Chair Gabbard and Committee: Mahalo for the opportunity to testify. Hawai'i SEED supports the passage of SB 615 relating to the labeling of genetically engineered fish. We feel that all genetically modified foods should be labeled as such since no long term studies have been conducted to prove them safe for human consumption. There are unknown environmental and human health risks associated with genetically engineered foods, and without the implementation of the Precautionary Principle, which states that no product shall be introduced until proven safe, we are asking you, our elected officials, to advocate for the protection of the residents and visitors of Hawai'i. Without labels, consumers are unable to identify genetically engineered fish and fish products and wouldn't know if they are feeding this transgenic, antibiotic laden product to their families. One only needs to observe the farmed fish industry to realize that the production of a genetically engineered animal presents the risk of inevitable escape into wild fish populations, rendering us unable to recall this novel, laboratory created anomaly. Hawai'i SEED advocates for the implementation of agroecological methods of land and ocean based food production that support the integrity of the natural world without the use of harmful chemicals. Mahalo in advance for supporting S.B. No. 615, Mary Lacques Hawai'i SEED P.O. Box 14 Hale'iwa HI 96712



Testimony to the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
Thursday, Jan. 31, 2013, 2:45pm
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Conference Room 225

To: Committee on Energy and Environment: Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair;
Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair
Re: SB 615 Relating to Labeling

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Fax: (808) 877-7548
kahului@downtoearth.org

My name is Mark Fergusson and my company is **Down to Earth Organic & Natural**. We have five stores throughout the state: Honolulu, Kailua, Pearlridge, and Kapolei on Oahu; and Kahului on Maui. I appreciate the efforts made by the chair and the committee in addressing the need to prohibit the sale of genetically engineered fish or genetically engineered (GE) fish products in the State beginning 1/1/2014 unless appropriately labeled as genetically engineered or produced or partially produced with genetic engineering.

Down to Earth supports labeling of foods with genetically engineered ingredients. There are several reasons for our concerns.

There are unknown human health and environmental risks associated with genetically modified foods. Genetic engineering poses risks that scientists simply do not know enough to identify. In fact, based on what little is known about GE foods, many scientists have identified a variety of ways in which GE organisms could adversely impact both human health and the environment, so there is reason to be concerned.

Foods, specifically fish produced using genetic modification are different than fish produced without genetic modification. Genetically modified fish have a different genetic makeup than regular fish and contain genetic material from other species of life; this is not possible in the natural environment. Thus genetically modified fish is significantly different than regular fish and should be labeled so consumers can identify the genetically modified fish.

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. Many are not convinced that GE products are safe. While some oppose them based on scientific studies, others oppose them on religious, spiritual, philosophical, or ethical beliefs. The simple truth is that most people want the right to choose what they eat and what they feed their families.

www.downtoearth.org



SB 615 Relating to Labeling

Testimony, Mark Fergusson, Down to Earth

Page 2 of 2

Jan. 30, 2013

The lack of required labeling takes that right away. Government and the GE industry say there's no nutritional difference between GE and conventional foods, so according to them we don't need to know.

Down to Earth believes it is wrong for government to deny us our right to know in this way. Whether or not GE foods are alleged to be safe is irrelevant. This particular debate may never end. Our right to know what is in the food we are buying and our right to choose our preferred food should not be usurped for any reason.

Few choices in our daily lives are as important as the food choices we make for ourselves and our families. On this point, we should be the ones in control, not government, and certainly not the big agribusinesses that have a vested interest in ensuring their GE products remain unlabeled. They are opposed to labeling as they know that if GE foods are labeled a large number of consumers will avoid them, just as they have in European and Asian countries.

We call on the Hawaii State Legislature to support labeling of foods that contain GE organisms. Please vote in favor of SB 615.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo nui loa,

Mark Fergusson, Chief Organic Officer (CEO/CFO)

Down to Earth *Organic & Natural*

Tel. (808) 254-5111

Email: mark@downtoearth.org

SB615

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Megan Lamson	Mehana Consulting	Support	No

Comments: I am the owner and chief scientist with Mehana Consulting, a marine and coastal conservation, research and data analysis business here in Hawai'i. In short, I fully support this proposed bill SB 615. Hawai'i residents deserve to know the ingredients of their seafood purchases. Moreover, the health of the coral reef fishes depends on transparency and labelling as such. Thank you for your time and consideration. Malama pono.

SB615

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Linda Sola	Lanalani Farm	Comments Only	No

Comments: I am an organic farmer. GM foods can contaminate the growing, processing and handling of other foods and pose an economic threat to organic agriculture and farming, including fish farming. 2.Our state is trying to move towards more sustainability, food security, and farming methods that are in harmony with nature, NOT using harmful chemicals such as insecticides, herbicides, chemical fertilizers etc. GM foods are moving in the opposite direction and require increased chemical use in their production, including GM fish. 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 known and unknown human health and environmental risks associated with genetically modified foods, especially fish. Without labeling, consumers are denied the right to decide for themselves whether to take these risks, putting liability squarely on government and industry. Do YOU want to be responsible for dramatically increased death rates and/or environmental catastrophe?

January 30, 2013

Re: Testimony in Support of SB 615

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee:

I am testifying in strong support of SB 615. The public has the right to know if the fish they are purchasing and consuming have been genetically modified. Requiring such labeling is easy to do, but a great benefit to the public.

Thank you for your vote in support of SB 615.

Elizabeth M. Dunne, Esq.
Palolo, Hawaii

SB615

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Courtney Turner	Individual	Support	No

Comments: People have the right to know what's in their food. In general, GMO ramifications can be unexpected and can also affect the economy in the long term, example: GMO papayas that no longer can be exported to Japan and have hurt the papaya industry here. Since GMO fish is so new, and the risks uncertain since they have not been tested as extensively as they could have been, consumers should have a chance to know what they are eating. Even newly released FDA drugs list possible side effects so that the consumer is aware of possible risks.

SB615

Submitted on: 1/29/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robyn Kinker	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I deserve a right to know what i am buying.

SB615

Submitted on: 1/29/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Zawacki	Individual	Support	No

Comments: For SB615, I support the labeling of all GMO's. I want to know what is in my food so I can make an informed decision regarding my purchases.

SB615

Submitted on: 1/29/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

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

Comments: mahalo for considering this testimony in favor of labeling GMO products. i want to know what's in my fish!

SB615

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Steve LaFleur	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I want the right to know what I'm eating!!!

SB615

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephen Luksic	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support SB 615 on behalf of myself and my family. We need to label all genetically modified organisms, I find it difficult to believe that the genetic modification of any living organism is legal. I find it repulsive that genetic modifications are occurring with our food supply, and I am appalled that consumers are not informed properly about the products that are ingested. Please make one responsible decision for the benefit of the people and citizens of Hawaii, and Label all genetically modified organisms, especially animals. Please pass SB 615 for the benefit of our children.

SB615

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Phoebe Eng	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Support

SB615

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB615

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benton Pang	Individual	Support	No

Comments: 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.

SB615

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

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

Comments: i support this 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, including fish farming. 2.Food production should be moving towards more sustainable methods of agriculture, foods and farming methods that are in harmony with nature, i.e. not using harmful chemicals such as insecticides, herbicides, chemical fertilizers etc. GM foods are moving in the opposite direction and result in increased chemical use in the production of food, including GM fish which are fed a diet of antibiotics to keep them "healthy" (as if a fish designed to grow to more than twice its normal weight in half the time could ever be "healthy"). 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.Foods, specifically fish produced using genetic modification are different from fish produced without genetic modification. Genetically modified fish have a different genetic makeup than regular fish and contain genetic material from other species of life; this is not possible in the natural environment. Thus genetically modified fish are significantly different than regular fish and should be labeled so consumers can identify the genetically modified fish. 5.There are unknown human health and environmental risks associated with genetically modified foods, especially fish. Without labeling consumers will be unable to identify genetically modified fish and won't know if they are consuming it or not. Please vote in favor of S.B. No. 615.

SB615

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

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

Comments: Please support this bill because it gives the public good labeling of GMOs. The public should be able to know what they are eating.

SB615

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dr. Lorrin Pang	Individual	Support	No

Comments: See testimony via file sent via permission from another computer due to computer glitch.

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 who 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

1/29/13

SB 615

RELATING TO LABELING.

I am in complete support of prohibiting the sale of genetically engineered fish or genetically engineered fish products in the state of Hawaii beginning as soon as possible unless appropriately labeled as such.

I have Crohn's Disease and as such with a compromised digestive system it is critical to know everything possible regarding my food supply. I believe as a consumer I have the right to know what is in my food and how it is produced. I don't believe any company has the right to sell any product without full disclosure of it's nature.

Please give us the laws we need to be able to make informed decisions that inevitably affect our health and therefore our economic stability and our ability to be productive, healthy members of our state.

Robert P Smith
Waipahu
rps1571@yahoo.com

Re: SB 615

Jan.31, 2013 2:45 p.m.

Rm. 225

Relating to the sale

of genetically modified fish

Testimony in Strong

Support

from Mary Barter

808-638-0283

59-529 Hoalike Rd.

Haleiwa, HI

96712

Dear Senator Gabbard and Committee Members,
Information is essential in the exercise of freedom.

Citizens in a free country unquestionably have the right to know the exact nature of the food we choose to eat. Anyone who tries to interfere with the free flow of information clearly does not understand the meaning of a free Republic.

Will you judge a citizen's reasons for wanting information before deciding whether it should be available or hidden?

Can there be any question that people have the right to know the origin and status of their food?

The act of eating is an intimate act, involving important choices for many people. Values come into play--cultural, spiritual, nutritional, moral, environmental.

Simply require that the purveyor of this novel organism, label the product as to what it is.

Please pass SB615 relating to the sale of genetically modified fish in Hawai'i.

Thank you,
Mary M. Barter

**SENATOR MIKE GABBARD
CHAIR, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
HEARING ON SB 615 (GMO FISH LABELING) 1/31/13 RM. 225
THURSDAY STATE CAPITOL
TESTIMONY FOR NOT ONLY INSISTING ON LABELING GMO
BUT STOPPING GMO GENERALLY.**

My name is Ron Carlson. I have practiced dental surgery in Honolulu since 1970.

Unexamined “human wisdom” would have us believe that “we most always know what is best for nature and ourselves through our modern science.” You and I know that this is not so, but Corporate America and its State Universities, who wish to “sell” their concepts and products, keep on suggesting and insisting that they have the answers to our problems.

But, they don’t!

Endlessly, and sadly, we have seen the *ill results* of man’s folly, man’s wisdom manipulating our environment. A few examples, if you will, of “the science of man” that is directed by Directive Heads:

- 1) Heptachlor in the 70’s was a huge issue. The experts ensured us, that there would be no problems relating to its use on cane and pine, but it got into the milk of our cows, to the children, and we had an emergency on our hands, did we not? It got into our wells too, and to my knowledge is still present.
- 2) Remember the mongoose? Classically tragic, if not hilarious in a sense. Brought here to quell the rodent population, they were like ships passing in the night, for one operated by day the other by night.
- 3) In global concern and consideration, we now have GMO corn that is programmed for self protection from certain pests, a genetically manipulated “internal insecticide,” but so injures the Monarch Butterfly that it can no longer reproduce, and is having a devastating impact on pollination of crops. A real catastrophe that is unreported.
- 4) The most recent 2 year study from Europe on the ill effects of long term use of GMO feed that showed: It cannot be scientifically denied by Monsanto et al: in a two-year surrogate animal study for humans, showing that Roundup-tolerant GM-Corn has devastating health impacts on female rats by hastening their deaths 2 to 3 times faster; that they developed mammary tumors more often than control rats; that the pituitary was the 2nd most disabled organ; that liver congestion and death were 5.5 times higher; that marked & sever kidney failure was 2.3 times greater; that males had 4 times the tumors of controls; that there were very significant chronic kidney defects; that for both sexes 76% of defective events were kidney related; and, that the endocrine metabolic defects of rats were related to the transgene (genetic material shot into the corn) in the GMO, and the Roundup itself. It takes *genius* to deny the potential ill effects on human health as a result of these studies; and, I am confident the "Big Monte" will respond well in this regard. GMO is not about food. The real question is about our individual-collective health and our precious environment.

These are but a scant view of the thousands upon thousands of Follies.

My purpose in my testimony is to simply point out and recall to our memory man's Follies. This evidence and other testimonial evidence should be sufficient for the passage of this protective measure, keeping our water, land, and food safe; for, are they not all interconnected and interwoven?

But my testimony is not about GMO labelling only.

It is, however, about using the fundamental principle of the "General Welfare" as a guide Light for all legislation.

If, for one instance, you ethically and morally could chance injury to one human being by going along with "chemicallization" of water, or land, or food, then you have "not" upheld your oath to "Preserve and Protect the General Welfare of the People."

GENERAL WELFARE is not a statistic! If 2% of the island population of Hawaii (about 30,000 people) are allergic to fluorine, or some other food modified by genetics—FRANKENFOODS—(A GMO FOOD) and you wrest from the people the ability to choose and further encumber that "non-choice," the oath you took is for naught. One of the 30,000 people, a fellow human being may die, or, experience life long disability due to a vote yea or nay on this issue.

Now, **General Welfare** as expressed in The People's Constitution does not mean a political party's general welfare, nor the government's, nor a racial group's, nor a gender's, nor children's alone, nor the welfare of any special group's alone. But what it does mean is the **GENERAL WELFARE OF EVERYBODY**, THAT IS ALL THE PEOPLE (HOPEFULLY ENVIRONMENT TOO), **BAR NONE!!!**

I urge you to vote for a bill that will insist on labeling and prevent any entity, human or otherwise, from putting any structural substance in our water, food chain, environment that may alter the human being or the Biosphere.

PLEASE, PULL FOR A "LABELLING OF GMO FISH" ON THIS ISSUE.

THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING ME TO SPEAK AND FOR YOUR LISTENING.

Dr. Ronald S. Carlson
4211 Waialae Avenue
Suite 400
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816
808-735-0282

SB615

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

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

Comments:

I am in complete support of prohibiting the sale of genetically engineered fish or genetically engineered fish products in the state of Hawaii.

I believe that the consumer should have the right to know all about the food that we purchase with our hard earned money including how it is produced. It should be our choice.

Honestly why should any company have the right to sell any product without full disclosure of its nature? If they truly believe that there is absolutely nothing wrong with how they are producing/processing the food, then why hid it from the consumer? What are they hiding? This should be the consumers' choice and not an option for the companies to conceal.

Please pass laws that allow us to make informed decisions that affect our health and therefore our economic stability and our ability to be productive, healthy members of our state.

Mahalo,
Sharon

I AM ALAN ANTHONY DOUGLAS ACKERMAN , SON OF WALTER D. ACKERMAN,JR ... 8TH GENERATION OF KING KAME'HAME'HA 1 ...

I SUBMIT TESTIMONY THAT THIS ACTION IS BASED ON GREED , A RACIST MOTION ON PART OF CORPORATIONS AND PEOPLE NOT OF OUR HAWAI'IAN ISLANDS ...

THEY DON'T CARE IF YOU DIE OR NOT ...

HAWAI'IAN ARCHIPELIGO IS A CLOSED SYSTEM ... GMOs WILL SPREAD AS WILDFIRE ... THEN PARADISE IS GONE ...

I NOW PUT FORTH THAT THE GOVERNMENT THAT IS NOW OCCUPYING THE ISLANDS ARE NOT OF A SPIRITUAL NATURE AND THEREFORE SUMMARILY ASKED TO VACATE OUR LANDS AND OCEANS SO WE MAY CLEAN UP ...

WE ALSO COMMAND THAT THE UNITED STATES AND JAPAN ARE CRIMINALLY NEGLIGENT IN CONTROLLING FUKUSHIMA RADIATION AND DEBRIS ... CLEAN IT ALL UP

~~~ BILL SB 615 ~~~

BILL TO LABEL GMO FISH ??? WHAT GMO FISH ???

YOU NEED TO TOTALLY BAN ALL GMOs IN HAWAI'I ...

THEY ARE KILLING THE LAND (A'INA) AND OCEANS (KAI)

THAT IS PROVEN ... THOSE CORPS ARE LOOKING FOR MONEY ...

THEY WILL KILL ALL FOOD THEN YOU WILL PAY UP THE ASS TO LIVE ... THUS KILLING YOU OFF ...

Dear Senators and Chairman Gabbard;

I oppose bill sb615, which seeks to allow more untested science experiments into the food supply. Most other countries won't accept our GMO foods, and we should be banning it too, not expanding its use. It seems that the only people who are in favor of this practice are those making money from it.

Elaine Johnson  
Honolulu, HI

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committees:

My name is Brilana Silva, resident of Pearl City, and I am testifying in support of SB 615. Fish is significant to Hawaii both traditionally and culturally. Genetically modified ANYTHING should be labeled as such, but with the pending possibility of the FDA approving GM Atlantic Salmon, our local, non-GM fisheries should have the opportunity to differentiate themselves from genetically modified fish. Please support SB 615, and make labeling of GM fish mandatory.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Brilana Silva

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/29/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| Submitted By     | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Mitsuko Hayakawa | Individual   | Support            | No                 |

Comments: Aloha. I am opposed to genetically engineered fish. There is a lack of transparency in the biotech industry and the public has not been shown evidence that genetically modified foods are safe. The FDA themselves acknowledges that GE salmon has a higher mortality rate when exposed to a certain bacteria. GE Salmon is supposedly sterile even though there is no evidence that that will always be the case. Are they really sterile? And if so, how will eating sterile fish affect our children? As a mother of three and a concerned citizen for all future generations, I ask our legislators to protect our children from consuming potentially dangerous substances. Even if they are labeled, many people may choose to buy salmon without knowing the potential risks and they may also be served at restaurants to unsuspecting people. Please do not allow GE fish to be sold in Hawaii. We should not support such irresponsible business practices at the risk of public health. Mahalo.



**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/29/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Brady Townsend      | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: LABEL IT. GMO belongs in a lab. not in open air or the ocean where it can get out.STOP THE MADNESS. be PONO or be held accountable.

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/29/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| J. Soltau           | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: I am not in favor of even allowing food modification, however, if you are going to be participating in this, I believe it's my right to know what I'm putting in my body. IF you are being influenced by Monsanto or the GMO lobbyists, it's time to realize that your commitment is to the people. DO WHAT IS RIGHT, as it is GUARANTEED that your actions will come back to haunt you!

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/29/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ann Gommers         | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: Please require labeling of ALL GMO products...start with the fish and go on to vegatable and grain. We need to have a choice. There is too little known about the long term ramifications of GMO on the food we eat. We DO know that GMO will over time eliminate the natural diversity that occurs over generations of life. SO please please give us all a "Freedom in our food" by clearly marking ALL GMO foods. Thank you for your consideration. Ann Gommers 68-615 Farrington Highway, Waialua, HI 808-888-3872

Hi I am a mother of two, a wife, a daughter, a sister and I am here today for all of them. I want the healthiest foods for me and my family; that is only common sense. And how can I do that if I do not know what I am buying. I don't want to eat GMO SALMON or GMO PAPAYA it is not natural. I don't want your science experiment for dinner. It is not the public's fault that the FDA approved something and put it in our food without telling us and now they are back tracking trying to figure out a way to not let the general public know what they did. Most people do not even know what a GMO is and that is not an accident

Gandhi said " There is sufficiency in the world for mans need but not for mans greed. "

There is enough food on this planet. GMO's have no increase in yield and are toxic for the environment. They are monocrop's and every farmer knows you cannot plant the same thing over and over it drains the soil of all the nutrients.

Imagine if a business were to drop the idea of wealth accumulation as its ultimate goal. How different would business look? What goals would replace it and what would be there means of achievement?

Have you thought about the impacts of your actions? Please NO GMO SALMON !!!

PLEASE LABEL GMO'S!!! PLEASE GET THESE BIO COMPANIES OUT OF HERE!!!

p.s some countries have banned GM crops and we cannot even get them labeled why??

MAHALO JESSICA MITCHELL CONCERNED MOTHER

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/29/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| sharon willeford    | Individual          | Comments Only             | No                        |

Comments: BAN ALL GMO's and STOP Monsanto from poisoning Hawaii (please watch the video "Tell Monsanto To Stop Poisoning Hawaii" on YouTube. I'm representing The BIG ISLAND - we do not want GMO fish - to pollute the reefs, and poison our CHILDREN. I am a Public school teacher for 30 yrs. - Please STUDY the GMO conspiracy against the good people and children, as I have done deeply for years. LABEL OUR FOOD, Abolish the PLDC and protect the Aina. Thank YOU! ( I know you have a heart in there somewhere ;)

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/29/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Don V. Lax          | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: Please demand labeling on all GMO products.

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/29/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| jazi gersi          | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: Aloha, thank you for labeling all gmo foods my fmily appreciate this especially my children, our future. Mahalo, jazi

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/29/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| Submitted By  | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Brian Lehmann | Individual   | Support            | No                 |

Comments: good analysis of the FDA review process. please appropriately label all GMOf food. thank you.

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/29/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Shelly Ronen | Individual   | Support            | No                 |

Comments: I beg of you to have this bill passed!! Many other countries are refusing GMO crops because of how dangerous they are to humankind. I can't stress enough how this madness to our food supply needs to stop NOW. Please, please, please make it stop, our children and our future depends on it.

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/29/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Amanda Corby | Individual   | Support            | No                 |

Comments: Consumers have the right to know what they are consuming. I support the bill prohibiting the sale of genetically engineered fish or genetically engineered fish products in the State unless appropriately labeled as genetically engineered or produced or partially produced with genetic engineering.

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/29/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sam Small           | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: I would like all foods containing GMO's to be labeled. The public has a right to know what;s in our food. Thanks.

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/29/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Gale K. Perez       | Individual          | Comments Only             | No                        |

Comments: No to GMO of our fish. We have a right to protect our food and what we consume, I represent my ohana too on this issue and we want no part of Genetically Modified fish. And we have the right to know what you are doing to our fish and food.

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/29/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| danitza galvan      | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: If we are to have genetically engineered fish please let me know by labeling it. I have the right to choose.

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/29/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| walter Ritte        | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: THIS IS AN OCEAN STATE. THE PROTECTION OF ITS WATERS AND LIFE FORM IS JOB ONE. GMOs ARE SUSPECT AT BEST WHEN IT COMES TO HEALTH IMPACTS AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS.

My name is Cora Piliwale. I am born and raised here on the island of Oahu. I support SB 615 which prohibits the sale of genetically engineered fish. Not only does GE fish pose a threat to our aquatic ecosystem and our planet as a whole but it also poses unknown health risks since it's never been tested for safety of consumption.

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/29/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Brian Sweeney       | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: Dismantle Monsanto  
Genetically Engineered Fish

I support a senate bill to label all GE fish. Also, I feel the Hawaii legislature needs to support resistance to the corporations driving today's global ecological crisis through extreme energy and resource extraction industries, industrial agriculture, toxic pollution and waste, water privatization, trade liberalization and the commodification of all life." Please start with an action to confiscate all assets of Monsanto in Hawaii Corporation. Their history of collusion with the military and government in total fraud needs to be addressed NOW.

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/29/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Adam Bensley | Individual   | Support            | No                 |

Comments: GMO's need to be labeled. They are not natural, and are not healthy for the environment or the consumer.

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Pamela Palencia     | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: I support SB 615 labeling GMO fish. We deserve to know. Mahalo, Pam Palencia

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| James Macey         | Individual          | Support                   | Yes                       |

Comments: I most strongly support SB 615. I take my health and the health of my children and grandchildren very seriously and I am very grateful to Senators GABBARD, RUDERMAN, Chun Oakland, Shimabukuro, L. Thielen for introducing this bill. Please support and pass this bill as no one wants unhealthy "Franken Fish" to eat or let loose in our environment. It must be labeled.

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| John NAYLOR         | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: Please pass SB615. All GMO products MUST be labeled to give the consumer a choice. Personally I wish there were NO GMO products. There have been NO long term studies and infact I understand that Big AG/ chemical has infiltrated the Gov't w/cronies and \$\$\$ and have essentially made it illegal to study GMO by independent or Gov't sponsored studies.



**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Patricia Gardner    | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: I support the views of Hawaii Organic Farmers Association, who strongly supports 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, including fish farming. 2. Food production should be moving towards more sustainable methods of agriculture, foods and farming methods that are in harmony with nature, i.e. not using harmful chemicals such as insecticides, herbicides, chemical fertilizers etc. GM foods are moving in the opposite direction and result in increased chemical use in the production of food, including GM fish which are fed a diet of antibiotics to keep them "healthy" (as if a fish designed to grow to more than twice its normal weight in half the time could ever be "healthy"). 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. Foods, specifically fish produced using genetic modification are different from fish produced without genetic modification. Genetically modified fish have a different genetic makeup than regular fish and contain genetic material from other species of life; this is not possible in the natural environment. Thus genetically modified fish are significantly different than regular fish and should be labeled so consumers can identify the genetically modified fish. 5. There are unknown human health and environmental risks associated with genetically modified foods, especially fish. Without labeling consumers will be unable to identify genetically modified fish and won't know if they are consuming it or not. Please vote in favor of S.B. No. 615

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Valerie Sapourn     | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: It is common sense to label what is in our food so consumers can make intelligent informed decisions about what they are feeding their families. Mahalo for your support in passing this. ;- ) Valerie

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Raphiell Nolin      | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: I support this bill for the following reasons: I have the right to know what I am eating. I choose NOT to eat or feed my family genetically modified food, therefore the food that I buy should be labeled accordingly.

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Martha Lind         | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: Aloha Members of the SB615 Committee: I urge your support of SB615, requiring the labeling of genetically engineered fish or fish products beginning in the year 2014. The adverse health effects of genetically engineered food are just coming to light. It is so important that we, as consumers, be able to be informed as to what we are consuming. Therefore, I urge you to support this bill requiring this labeling of fish and fish products. Mahalo, Martha Lind Makawao, HI

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Gene Groves         | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: I want to know whether the fish and ALL other produce I buy contains genetically engineered substances. I have seen no conclusive evidence that they are safe, and there is much evidence that many GE products may be toxic. If there's not the political courage to stop potentially dangerous substances in our food, then please at least require that they are labelled so I have a real choice to reduce my exposure.

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Paul Solomon        | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| christina           | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: Label our food if you're going to modify them!

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jessica Bourque     | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| nadine robertson    | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: Please vote in favor of S.B. No. 615. We have the right to know whether the foods we eat are genetically modified or not. Without labeling we are unable to identify if the foods we eat are GMO or not; therefore, the option to choose (our God given right) is taken away from all consumers, including yourself, `ohana, and friends. We keep preaching on sustainability, and yet, here we are in discussion on voting on whether we, you and I, have the right to know. `Auwe! Please vote in favor of S.B. No. 615. Mahalo for your time and the opportunity to testify. Nadine Robertson POB 941, Mountain View, Hawai`i 96720 email: [nrobert506@aol.com](mailto:nrobert506@aol.com) cell: 896-4108

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Marta greenleaf     | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: Please vote for this bill to protect the consumer and the right to know what is in our food. There has been so much concern about genetically modified foods all over the world. The US must comply with the demands of the citizens and more people are expressing their right to have the food they consume labeled!

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| David M. Johnston   | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Mariah Martino      | Individual          | Comments Only             | No                        |

Comments: Salmon is a favorite fish for many people. When someone pays for salmon they want SALMON not salmon with other fish genetics. To be considerate of the people, gmo salmon needs to be labeled. It will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Carol Lubick        | Individual          | Support                   | Yes                       |

Comments:

Chairman Senator Mike Gabbard  
Energy and Environment Committee  
Date of Hearing: Jan 31, 2012 2:45pm  
Room 225 at the Capitol Building of the Senate

Honorable Chairman and Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. ....

My name is Jay Ogden, 1722B 10<sup>th</sup> Ave., Honolulu, Hawaii 96816. I am active in the agriculture industry and own a company which provides sustainability consulting and planning for Oahu residents. I am also a member of the Hawaii Organic Farming Association. Our website is [www.aquaponicsoahu.com](http://www.aquaponicsoahu.com)

HOFA (Hawaii Organic Farming Association) supports the passage of S.B. No. 615 relating to the labeling of genetically modified fish.

HOFA, established in 1994 is an Association of Hawaii organic farmers, distributors, retailers, other organic industry members, and organic consumers. HOFA's vision is to create a sustainable future for Hawaii and our mission is to Further organic and sustainable agriculture, land care, and lifestyles in Hawaii, thus giving meaning and life to our state motto: Ua mau ke ea o ka aina I ka pono "The Life of the Land is Perpetuated in Righteousness".

HOFA strongly supports 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, including fish farming.
2. Food production should be moving towards more sustainable methods of agriculture, foods and farming methods that are in harmony with nature, i.e. not using harmful chemicals such as insecticides, herbicides, chemical fertilizers etc. GM foods are moving in the opposite direction and result in increased chemical use in the production of food, including GM fish which are fed a diet of antibiotics to keep them "healthy" (as if a fish designed to grow to more than twice its normal weight in half the time could ever be "healthy").
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. Foods, specifically fish produced using genetic modification are different from fish produced without genetic modification. Genetically modified fish have a different genetic makeup than regular fish and contain genetic material from other species of life; this is not possible in the natural environment. Thus genetically modified fish are significantly different than regular fish and should be labeled so consumers can identify the genetically modified fish.
5. There are unknown human health and environmental risks associated with genetically modified foods, especially fish. Without labeling consumers will be unable to identify genetically modified fish and won't know if they are consuming it or not.

Please vote in favor of S.B. No. 615.

Sincerely, Jay F. Ogden

1-31-13

Aloha Legislatures,

I am writing in support of SB 615 that all fish or fish product and any product sold in Hawai'i that is GMO be labeled as such or it cannot be sold in the State. There many things that a parent has to be concerned about when raising children and one of the most important is the food we eat. I make efforts to buy local, fresh, organic products and it's not always possible with the high costs of living here but not being able to distinguish what foods I am offering my children has been genetically modified, is something I will not compromise on. The only way for us as consumers and for any Government to be truly mindful of it's citizens is to be sure they have all the information needed to make sound choices for their family's well being.

Pass SB 615 and all bills requiring labeling of GMO foods, we have a responsibility as the adults of this generation to care for the future of the next.

Mahalo,

Summer Faria

2553 Komo Mai Drive

Pearl City, HI 96782

808-387-1098

sumfaria@gmail.com



**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| Submitted By   | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|----------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Suyin Phillips | Individual   | Support            | No                 |

Comments:

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| Submitted By       | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Marty Swalinkavich | Individual   | Support            | No                 |

Comments: I support passage of SB615 , Thank You for your time and consideration, Marty Swalinkavich.

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| Submitted By   | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|----------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Athena D. Gray | Individual   | Support            | No                 |

Comments:

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Marilyn Mick | Individual   | Support            | No                 |

Comments: I support this bill. We all have a right to know what we are eating. Poll after poll shows us this to be overwhelming supported by all americans.

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Thomas King  | Individual   | Support            | No                 |

Comments: I support this all truth in labeling of food. I believe there is no good reason to withhold information about GMO ingredients in any food product.

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Donna Lay    | Individual   | Support            | No                 |

Comments:

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Maria Clark  | Individual   | Support            | No                 |

Comments: We have the right to know what is in our food.

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

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

Comments:

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Go Hayakawa         | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: My name is Go Hayakawa. I am 10 years old. I support House Bill 615 to label GM fish. First of all, no tests have shown that GM fish are good and safe to eat. Some kids don't have a choice to eat the school lunch and they will be forced to eat GMO salmon if it is served in the cafeteria. GMO salmon is more aggressive than regular salmon, so what will it do to the kids? Also, if fish is genetically modified, then what happens to the beneficial oils in fish? If GM fish is labeled, people who want to eat it can buy it themselves. It would allow us to make good choices for ourselves, so we should have GMO fish labeled.

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

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| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kawai McEwen        | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

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

Comments: COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair Senator Chun Oakland Senator Les Ihara Jr Senator Sam Slom DATE: Thursday, January 31, 2013 TIME: 2:45 p.m. PLACE: Conference Room 225 State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street RE: SB 615 regarding labeling of genetically engineered fish Aloha Senators, I am writing in support of SB 615 which 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. This bill does not go far enough, but labeling is a step in the right direction. At the very least, consumers have the right to know exactly what is in the food they buy. I, like a growing number of Americans, avoid genetically engineered foods whenever possible due to the increased risk of allergens and potential toxicity, but without labeling it is difficult to know what's what. Seafood is very important culturally and economically to Hawai'i. Tourists from other countries that have banned genetically engineered foods, like Japan and the European Union, will not want to come to Hawai'i and eat our famous fresh seafood if they suspect it may be "GE". Research published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences concluded that a release of only 60 genetically engineered fish into a wild population of 60,000 could lead to the extinction of wild populations in just 40 fish generations. To risk the health and viability of the world's fish populations for the profits of a few biotech companies is completely unacceptable. The people of Hawai'i have the right to make informed choices about their food. Please pass HB699 to label genetically engineered fish. Sincerely, Angela Breene [angelavideotron@gmail.com](mailto:angelavideotron@gmail.com) Haleiwa, HI 96712

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/31/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| mira walker  | Individual   | Support            | No                 |

Comments: Please Support Bill SB615. We have a right to know if the fish we eat, catch and manage are Genetically Modified. GMO labeling of what we consume gives us the choice. This is now a local issues but countries all over the world are concerned about GMO products due to no long term studies that can prove that GMO fish are not harmful to human Beings over time. This issue is especially important for our children and their children. We could be harming those we love as well as ourselves. We have a right to know what fish and othr foods have been GMO modified. Mahalo For YOur Support.

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/31/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Helena Berg  | Individual   | Support            | No                 |

**SB615**

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| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| lisa bianchi | Individual   | Support            | No                 |

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/31/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

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

Comments: No one in his right mind can be "for" something as detrimental to life on this planet as GMO's present. The non-partisan independently funded studies all clearly point out the dangers and follies of pursuing such a path. In the face of such overwhelming evidence anyone who recklessly supports such policy is guilty of crimes against humanity and life on this planet. It's just a matter of time before civil suits start flying. When bureaucrats and administrators start doing jail time maybe people will start getting the message. You can bet we voters are going to be keeping track of who supports this bill and who doesn't. Sincerely, Tom Woolf

**SB615**

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Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Brenda Kennerly     | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: Please vote in favor of S.B. No. 615.

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/31/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Michael Broady Jr.  | Individual          | Support                   | Yes                       |

Comments: Aloha, My name is Michael Broady Jr. I have been a resident of O'ahu for my entire life of 24 years. I am currently a student at Leeward Community College, and a small farmer with limited land. My testimony today is addressed to the Senate Committee on ENE, and CPN. For the hearing on Thursday, January 31, 2013, at 2:45 P.M. I support SB 615. Given the choice, I would not consume genetically engineered fish. With the possible FDA approval of GMO salmon without labeling, I ask the Senate Committees on Energy and Environment, and Commerce and Consumer Protection, to provide me with the information I need to make this choice. I am not convinced that consumption of genetically modified organisms is safe for my health. Furthermore, I do not wish to unknowingly contribute to the demand for genetically modified fish, which following an increase in supply would also increase the risk of GMO salmon escaping into the wild, where they may negatively impact wild salmon populations.

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/31/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| Submitted By  | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Maria Maitino | Individual   | Support            | No                 |

Comments: Please support Senate Bill 615 to label any fish coming into Hawaii that is genetically modified

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/31/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| Submitted By  | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Kirsten Chase | Individual   | Support            | No                 |

Comments: Greetings dedicated Chairman and committee, I thank you for considering my testimony. I am very happy that you have allowed time to hear this bill, and am asking for your support. I feel total gratitude that we are able to have food suppliers on island that allow us to pay affordable prices and hope to continue to utilize their services. I want my food labeled, I want to know what I am eating, giving my children to eat and I believe I have that right. Please, as my representative, demand, for me and my children, the labeling of GMO salmon. With much gratitude and respect, Kirsten Chase

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/31/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Anna Hadley  | Individual   | Support            | No                 |

Comments: GMO foods of any kind are not natural and everyone who consumes them should at least have the awareness and opportunity to know if the food they are eating is GMO or not. This is a basic democratic right that needs to be upheld. Thank you for your support.. too bad it takes a whole year to go into effect when hopefully passed. Aloha. Anna Hadley, Maui Hawaii

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/31/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| John Impey          | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: As an organic farmer we do not support GMO products and as such feel it is essential for disclosure and proper labeling

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/31/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Leslie Larsen       | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: Consumers have the right to know whether the foods they eat are produced using genetic modification techniques. Please help, vote in favor of SB615. Mahalo Nui Loa. Leslie Larsen

**SB615**

Submitted on: 1/31/2013

Testimony for ENE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Alexa Hatton        | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: We have a right to know where our food comes from and what's in it. Please help us.