

~~Handwritten signature~~ HHS/FDA Bill
OK

Request for Legislation to Label Genetically Engineered Foods

President Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, DC 20500
Dear President Clinton,

*** RECEIVED ***
Nov 12, 1999 16:37:47 WS# 02
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
CORRESPONDENCE
CONTROL CENTER

I am very concerned that I am eating genetically engineered foods without being told that fact. I am sending you this letter to insist that legislation be passed into law that will require genetically engineered foods to be labeled as such, regardless of whether the food is in its whole form or as an ingredient in processed foods.

Genetically engineered crops are not the same as those produced by typical hybridization. The Food & Drug Administration (FDA), the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are being negligent in protecting the rights of the American public in regards to genetically engineered foods. I am asking you to act legislatively to stop these agencies' neglect of public interest.

The FDA is allowing genetically engineered foods to come to market unlabeled although public opinion polls show a majority of Americans want them labeled. (81% in a January 11, 1999 Time magazine poll.) Last year the USDA even proposed to include genetically engineered foods in the definition of organic! The EPA is allowing the Bt bacteria (a valuable tool for organic agriculture) to be genetically engineered into the structure of plants. This could seriously undermine organic agriculture and cause significant human health and environmental problems.

I am asking you to pass legislation to label all genetically engineered foods. Similar labeling legislation has already been passed in Europe and Australia. Please write back to me and let me know if you intend to work to pass this legislation. Thank you!

Sincerely
Nicole Rowley
Nicole Rowley
102 Grand Ave
Capitola, CA 95010

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