State Legislation Addressing Genetically Modified Organisms
June 2015

Compiled by Victoria Naifeh

Summary: 101 bills relating to genetically modified organisms were identified by NCSL in 29 states.

- 15 bills were enacted in 13 states
  - Alabama
  - Connecticut
  - Idaho
  - Indiana
  - Maine
  - Michigan
  - Mississippi
  - North Dakota
  - Pennsylvania
  - Rhode Island
  - Tennessee
  - Texas
  - Washington

- Enacted Legislation fell under the following categories:
  - Food Labeling Standards
    - CT H 6886; Chapter 15-13
    - ID HJM 6
    - ME H 296; Chapter 118
    - ND SCR 4020
  - Urging the use of scientifically-based data (also called sound science) to regulate GMOs
    - AL SR 77
    - IN HR 30
    - IN SR 48
    - MI HR 89
    - MS SCR 647
    - PA SR 95
    - RI H 5078
    - TN HJR 218
    - TX HR 1508
- Other
  - MS H 839
  - WA SR 8676
- 57 bills are pending
- 29 bills failed

**Alaska**
Alaska introduced one related bill, which remains pending.

Genetically Modified Food Labeling
**AK H 92**
Author: Tarr
Disposition: Pending - Carryover
Summary: Relates to the labeling of food. Relates to the misbranding of food. Requires labeling of food produced with genetic engineering.

**Alabama**
Alabama introduced and enacted one bill, requiring the use of sound science in evaluating crop protection chemistries. The state supports the use of science-based data to assess the impacts and the regulation of modern agricultural technologies, including, but not limited to, crop protection chemistries, genetically engineered or enhanced traits, and agricultural nutrients.

Use of Sound Science in Evaluating Crop Protection
**AL SR 37**
Author: Whatley
Disposition: Adopted
Summary: Requires the use of sound science in evaluating crop protection chemistries, genetically engineered traits, and agricultural nutrients.

**Arizona**
The bill in Arizona proposing labeling of food produced with genetic engineering failed at adjournment.

Genetically Engineered Foods
**AZ H 2462**
Author: Mendez
Disposition: Failed - Adjourned
Summary: Relates to genetically engineered foods. Relates to labeling.

**Connecticut**
Connecticut introduced six bills relating to genetically altered products. Five bills have failed; one has been enacted. Applicability of Genetically Engineered Food Labeling (Chapter 15-13) states that the following are not required by genetically engineered food labeling requirements:
alcoholic beverages, nonalcoholic malt beverages, food intended for human consumption that is not packaged for retail sale, food being sold directly from a farmer, and food derived from an animal that was not genetically engineered.

Genetically Modified Organisms
CT H 5726
Author: Steinberg
Disposition: Failed
Summary: Concerns the labeling of foods that contain genetically modified organisms. Enables the state to require the labeling of genetically modified organisms in food products.

Genetically Modified Grass Seeds
CT H 6041
Author: Steinberg
Disposition: Failed
Summary: Concerns genetically modified grass seeds. Limits the sale and distribution of genetically modified grass seeds.

Genetically Modified Organisms Food Labeling
CT H 6042
Author: Steinberg
Disposition: Failed
Summary: Concerns the labeling of foods that contain genetically modified organisms. Enables the state to require the labeling of genetically modified organisms in food products.

Genetically Modified Grass Seeds
CT H 6052
Author: Steinberg
Disposition: Failed
Summary: Concerns genetically modified grass seeds. Limits the sale and distribution of genetically modified grass seeds.

Labeling of Baby Food and Infant Formula
CT H 6798
Author: Joint Committee on Children
Disposition: Failed - Adjourned
Summary: Requires labeling of baby food and infant formula containing genetically engineered organisms.

Applicability of Genetically Engineered Food Labeling
CT H 6886; Chapter 15-13
Author: Joint Committee on General Law
Disposition: Enacted
Summary: Relates to the applicability of genetically-engineered food labeling requirements to nonalcoholic malt beverages.

**Florida**
Two related bills in Florida failed. These bills related to labeling raw foods and processed foods made with or derived from genetically engineered ingredients.

Labeling of Genetically Engineered Foods  
**FL H 351**  
Author: Rehwinkle Vasil  
Disposition: Failed  
Summary: Relates to labeling of genetically engineered foods. Provides lists of raw agricultural commodities at high risk or potentially at risk for cultivation in genetically engineered form. Requires Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) to publish a list by a specified date and annually update list. Provides mandatory labeling requirements for genetically engineered raw agricultural commodities and processed foods made with or derived from genetically engineered ingredients.

Labeling of Genetically Engineered Foods  
**FL S 416**  
Similar: FL H 351  
Author: Ring  
Disposition: Failed  
Summary: Relates to labeling of genetically engineered foods. Provides lists of raw agricultural commodities at high risk or potentially at risk for cultivation in genetically engineered form. Requires the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to publish the lists by a specified date and to update a published list annually. Provides for enforcement of the labeling requirements.

**Georgia**
One bill in Georgia remains pending. It aims to create a committee on genetically engineered foods in the House.

House Study Committee on Genetically Engineered Foods  
**GA HR 450**  
Author: Turner  
Disposition: Pending - Carryover  
Summary: Creates the House Study Committee on Genetically Engineered Foods.

**Hawaii**
Twelve bills were introduced in Hawaii and they all are pending. Five bills relate to labeling requirements for genetically altered foods. Two bills mandate the Department of Agriculture to
take precautionary measures to minimize adverse effects of genetically altered products. One bill prevents counties or other political body from enacting rules related to GMOs.

Genetically Engineered Fish
HI H 686
Author: Ing
Disposition: Pending - Carryover
Summary: Prohibits propagating, cultivating, or farming genetically engineered fish in state marine Waters

Pesticide Use
HI H 687
Author: Ing
Disposition: Pending - Carryover
Summary: Authorizes counties to regulate genetically engineered organisms and pesticide use to the extent that the regulations are more stringent than state or federal laws.

Genetic Engineering
HI H 1391
Author: Say
Disposition: Pending - Carryover
Summary: Mandates the Department of Agriculture to take precautionary measures to anticipate, prevent, or minimize the adverse effects of biotechnology and genetic engineering.

Genetically Engineered Material
HI S 131
Author: Keith-Agaran
Disposition: Pending - Carryover
Summary: Establishes labeling requirements for any food or raw agricultural commodity sold in the State that contains a genetically engineered material, or was produced with a genetically engineered material. Establishes exceptions. Establishes violations. Requires the director of health to adopt rules.

Pesticide Rules and Ordinances
HI S 610
Author: Nishihara
Disposition: Pending - Carryover
Summary: Expressly pre-empts counties from enacting, adopting or enforcing ordinances or rules relating to GMOs. Expressly pre-empts counties or other political subdivisions from enacting, adopting, or enforcing ordinances or rules relating to pesticides.

Genetically Engineered Products in Enterprise Zones
HI S 712
Author: Gabbard
Disposition: Pending - Carryover
Summary: Makes the research, development, sale, production, or processing of genetically engineered agricultural products not for direct human consumption as food ineligible for tax and other incentives granted to certain businesses located in enterprise zones.

Genetically Engineered Seeds and Plant Parts
HI S 874
Author: English
Disposition: Pending - Carryover
Summary: Prohibits the planting of a genetically engineered seed or plant part in an open field. Allows the chairperson of the Board of Agriculture to grant an exception where such planting is done in a controlled environment.

Genetically Engineered Material
HI S 875
Author: English
Disposition: Pending - Carryover
Summary: Establishes, beginning Jan. 1, 2016, labeling requirements for any food or raw agricultural commodity sold in the state that contains a genetically engineered material, or was produced with a genetically engineered material. Establishes exceptions. Establishes violations. Requires director of health to adopt rules.

Genetically Modified Organism
HI S 884
Author: English
Disposition: Pending - Carryover
Summary: Requires a biotechnology company that sells a genetically modified organism that the company knows or has reason to believe will be used to produce an agricultural commodity to provide written disclosure of possible risks from the use of such an organism.

Genetic Engineering
HI S 885
Author: English
Disposition: Pending - Carryover
Summary: Mandates the Department of Agriculture to take precautionary measures to anticipate, prevent, or minimize the adverse effects of biotechnology and genetic engineering.

Labeling of Genetically Engineered Foods
HI S 1315
Author: Gabbard
Disposition: Pending - Carryover
Summary: Requires labeling of foods that have been genetically engineered. Provides a penalty for violations and authorizes private civil enforcement of the act.
Genetically Engineered Food
HI S 1321
Author: Ihara
Disposition: Pending - Carryover
Summary: Requires all genetically engineered food to be labeled with a disclosure stating that it is "Produced with Genetic Engineering." Deems any genetically engineered food sold without the required disclosure to be misbranded and subject to penalties.

Iowa
Iowa introduced one bill, still pending, relating to labeling GMO food products.

Food Labeling
IA H 147
Author: Masher
Disposition: Pending - Carryover
Summary: Requires food items to be labeled with information that identifies the food items as genetically modified. Provides that the department of agriculture and land stewardship is responsible for administering and enforcing's provisions. Provides that a person manufacturing a packaged food item must disclose whether it was or may have been subjected to genetic engineering when produced.

Idaho
Idaho enacted one bill, Uniform Food Labeling, urging the US Congress to enact legislation reaffirming the FDA as the primary authority in uniform food labeling related to genetic engineering.

Uniform Food Labeling
ID HJM 6
Author: House Agricultural Affairs Committee
Disposition: Adopted
Summary: States findings of the Legislature. Urges the U.S. Congress to enact bipartisan legislation that reaffirms the FDA as the primary authority in uniform food labeling related to genetic engineering, based on scientific standards regarding health, safety and nutrition. Urges that existing FDA labeling rules and guidance, as well as the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Organic Program, provide sufficient standards to address consumer interest in food production practices.

Illinois
Two bills relating to genetically engineered products were introduced in Illinois. One bill requires such food to be labeled. One bill supports meaningful consumer education and food manufacturers to inform consumers with truthful information.

Genetically Engineered Food Labeling Act
IL S 734
Author: Koehler
Disposition: Pending
Summary: Creates the Genetically Engineered Food Labeling Act. Provides that beginning on the effective date of the act, any food offered for retail sale in this state is misbranded if it is entirely or partially produced with genetic engineering and that fact is not disclosed in a certain manner. Provides that the act shall not be construed to require either the listing or identification of any ingredient or ingredients that were genetically engineered.

Legislative Resolution
IL SR 255
Author: Radogno
Disposition: Pending
Summary: Urges Congress to direct the clarification of national food labeling standards. Shows support for meaningful consumer education and for measures that provide consumers with a reasonable means of identifying food products that may or may not have been developed using bioengineering. Encourages food manufacturers to further study ways to inform consumers about food choices, as long as the information provided is truthful and not misleading.

Indiana
Five bills were introduced in Indiana. Three failed and two were adopted. Use of Sound Science (IN HR 30) and Crop Protection Chemistries and Nutrients (IN SR 48) oppose legislative or regulatory action at any level that may result in unnecessary restrictions on the use of modern agricultural technologies, including but not limited to crop protection chemistries, genetically engineered or enhanced traits, and nutrients that are not based on sound science.

Genetically Engineered Food
IN H 1460
Author: Kersey
Disposition: Failed - Adjourned
Summary: Provides that, beginning July 1, 2016, any food that is offered for retail sale is misbranded, for purposes of the law prohibiting the misbranding of food, if the food was or may have been entirely or partially produced with genetic engineering and this is not disclosed in a certain manner. Provides that, beginning July 1, 2016, there may be no statement or implication on a label, on a sign in the retail establishment, or in any advertising or promotional materials.

Use of Sound Science in Crop Chemistries
IN HR 30
Author: Lehe
Disposition: Adopted
Summary: Supports the use of "sound science" in evaluating crop protection chemistries and nutrients.
Genetic Engineering
IN S 60
Author: Kruse
Disposition: Failed - Adjourned
Summary: Provides that, beginning July 1, 2016, any food that is offered for retail sale is misbranded if it is not disclosed that the food is or may have been entirely or partially produced with genetic engineering. Provides that, beginning July 1, 2016, a food that is genetically engineered or a processed food may not state or imply that the food is natural. Establishes exceptions to the disclosure requirements and prohibition on stating a food is natural.

Genetically Engineered Food
IN S 264
Author: Kruse
Disposition: Failed - Adjourned
Summary: Provides that, beginning July 1, 2016, any food that is offered for retail sale is misbranded if it is not disclosed that the food is or may have been entirely or partially produced with genetic engineering. Provides that, beginning July 1, 2016, a food that is genetically engineered or a processed food may not state or imply that the food is natural. Establishes exceptions to the disclosure requirements and prohibition on stating a food is natural.

Crop Protection Chemistries and Nutrients
IN SR 48
Author: Leising
Disposition: Adopted
Summary: Recognizes the need for the use of "sound science" in evaluating crop protection chemistries and nutrients.

Massachusetts
Three bills were introduced in Massachusetts. They are pending. The bills relate to labeling requirements on food determined to be genetically engineered, and plant seeds used to modify genetically organisms or influence their growth and development by genetic engineering.

Labeling of Plant Seeds
MA H 761
Author: Story
Disposition: Pending
Summary: Relates to the labeling of plant seeds.

Labeling of Genetically Engineered Food
MA H 3242
Author: Story
Disposition: Pending
Summary: Relates to the labeling of genetically engineered food.
Liability for Genetically Engineered Food
MA S 1158
Author: Joyce
Disposition: Pending
Summary: Relates to liability for genetically engineered food.

Maine
Four bills relating to genetically modified organisms were introduced in Maine. One failed, two are pending and one has been enacted. Nonalcoholic Malt Beverages (Chapter 118) exempts nonalcoholic malt beverages from disclosure requirements of GMO labeling.

False Labeling of Marine Organisms
ME H 292
Author: Chapman
Disposition: Failed
Summary: This bill requires clear and conspicuous labeling of a marine organism offered for sale if the marine organism is produced using genetic engineering and is labeled with the same name as its nongenetically engineered counterpart. Failure to provide the required labeling is a civil violation.

Nonalcoholic Malt Beverages
ME H 295; Chapter 118
Author: Black
Disposition: Enacted
Summary: Exempts nonalcoholic malt beverages from the disclosure requirements of the laws regulating the labeling of genetically engineered products.

Genetically Modified Food Products Labeling Law
ME H 686
Author: Dunphy
Disposition: Pending
Summary: Summary Maine's genetically modified food products labeling law included a delay of the effective date of the law until mandatory labeling of genetically engineered food is adopted by at least five contiguous states including Maine. The law also included an automatic repeal if mandatory labeling of genetically engineered food is not adopted by at least five contiguous states including Maine by Jan. 1, 2018.

Labeling of All Genetically Modified Products
ME S 478
Author: Burns
Disposition: Pending
Summary: Summary This bill defines "genetically modified product," which includes genetically engineered seed stock, products from animals fed genetically engineered food and medicines that were manufactured with genetically engineered plants or animals to the laws regarding
the labeling of genetically engineered products. It requires the disclosure of genetic engineering of food, seed stock, products from animals fed genetically engineered food, or medicines that were manufactured with genetically engineered plants

**Michigan**

Three bills relating to genetically modified organisms were introduced in Michigan. Two are pending and one has been enacted. Genetically Modified Food Resolution (MI HR 89) urges Congress to pass legislation establishing a label program for genetically modified food that is science based.

**Genetically Modified Food Resolution**
MI HR 89  
Author: Lauwers  
Disposition: Adopted  
Summary: Urges the U.S. Congress to pass legislation that establishes a national, uniform, and scientifically based label program for genetically modified food.

**Sentencing Guidelines**
MI S 246  
Author: Zorn  
Disposition: Pending  
Summary: Updates references to sentencing guidelines, including that for the introduction of prohibited or genetically engineered species with intent to damage resources.

**Food Labeling Resolution**
MI SR 59  
Author: Green  
Disposition: Pending  
Summary: Urges the U.S. Congress to enact legislation requiring uniform and science-based food labeling nationwide.

**Minnesota**

Two related bills are pending in Minnesota. These would require disclosure of genetically engineered food.

**Commerce**
MN H 351  
Author: Clark  
Disposition: Pending - Carryover  
Summary: Relates to commerce. Provides consumer protection. Requires disclosure of genetically engineered food. Authorizes rulemaking.
MN S 335
Author: Marty
Disposition: Pending - Carryover
Summary: Relates to commerce. Provides consumer protection. Requires disclosure of genetically engineered food. Authorizes rulemaking

Missouri
Three bills relating to genetically modified products failed upon adjournment in Missouri. One bill related to labeling requirements for food products, two bills related to sound science in the regulation of agricultural technologies, including genetically modified organisms.

Genetically Modified Product Labeling
MO H 168
Author: Ellington
Disposition: Failed - Adjourned
Summary: Requires all food and food products sold in Missouri that are or contain genetically modified products to be labeled indicating that the food is or contains genetically modified products.

Modern Agricultural Technologies
MO HCR 47
Author: Korman
Disposition: Failed - Adjourned
Summary: Opposes legislative or regulatory actions that are not based on sound science that may restrict the use of modern agricultural technologies.

Modern Agricultural Technologies
MO SCR 33
Author: Curls
Disposition: Failed - Adjourned
Summary: Urges the Missouri congressional delegation to support the use of science-based data to assess the impacts and regulation of modern agricultural technologies.

Mississippi
Two bills relating to genetic engineering were passed in Mississippi. Cultivation of Invasive Nonnative Plant Species (MS H 839) prohibits the cultivation of potentially invasive nonnative plant species, including those that are genetically engineered. Expression of Intent Resolution (MS SCR 647) expresses support of federal regulation of crop protection chemistries when based on sound science.

Cultivation of Invasive Nonnative Plant Species
MS H 839
Author: Boyd
Disposition: Enacted
Summary: Prohibits the cultivation of potentially invasive nonnative plant species except under the special permit requirement for plantings in excess of one acre for the purpose of controlling the cultivation of nonnative plant species for fuel production by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce or Department of Agriculture Forestry plantings. Provides for issuance of a surety bond before the issuance of a permit.

Expression of Intent Resolution
MS SCR 647
Author: Hudson
Disposition: Adopted
Summary: Expresses the intent of the Mississippi Legislature for the support of federal regulations requiring the use of sound science in evaluating crop protection chemistries and nutrients.

Montana
Two bills relating to genetically engineered food failed on adjournment. One bill relates to food labeling requirements. One bill relates to an interim study to examine the potential market effects of genetically engineered wheat in Montana.

Food Labeling
MT D 595
Author: Olsen
Disposition: Failed - Adjourned
Summary: Revises laws regarding GMO contamination protections and food labeling. Relates to agriculture.

Study of Genetically Engineered Wheat
MT HJR 33
Author: Olsen
Disposition: Failed - Adjourned
Summary: Concerns the interim study of genetically engineered wheat on markets for Montana wheat. Relates to agriculture. Relates to interim studies legislature.

North Dakota
North Dakota adopted Food Labeling Standards (ND SCR 4020), urging Congress to establish food labeling standards, including those which apply to foods derived from biotechnology. No other bills were identified relating to Genetically Modified Organisms.

Food Labeling Standards
ND SCR 4020
Author: Miller
Disposition: Adopted
Summary: Urges Congress to establish food labeling standards, direct the clarification of voluntary food labeling standards, and provide for a review of foods derived through the use of biotechnology.

**New Jersey**

Five New Jersey bills relating to genetically modified food were introduced this year. All are pending. Two identical bills require labeling of foods containing genetically engineered material. Two identical bills urge the enactment of Safe and Accurate Food Labeling Act of 2015, a federal bill relating to food labeling. One bill relates to labeling food derived from genetic modification.

Genetically Modified Food Labeling
NJ A 1359
Identical: NJ S 2496
Author: Stender
Disposition: Pending - Carryover
Summary: Requires labeling of all foods containing genetically engineered material. Relates to misbranding of food products.

State and Accurate Food Labeling Act of 2015
NJ AR 239
Identical: NJ SR 133
Author: Coughlin
Disposition: Pending
Summary: Urges enactment of State and Accurate Food Labeling Act of 2015.

Labeling of Foods Requirements
NJ S 91
Author: Singer
Disposition: Pending - Carryover
Summary: Requires labeling of foods containing genetically modified material. Relates to misbranding of food products.

Safe and Accurate Food Labeling Act
NJ SR 133
Identical: NJ AR 239
Author: Van Drew
Disposition: Pending
Summary: Urges enactment of Safe and Accurate Food Labeling Act of 2015.

Labeling of Foods
NJ SR 2496
Identical: NJ AR 1359
Author: Ruiz
Disposition: Pending - Carryover
Summary: Requires labeling of foods containing genetically engineered material. Requires the label be on a food product that is consumable by a human and any item or substances that is intended for use as a food ingredient. Defines genetic engineering. Provides that failure to label such products constitutes misbranding and violates the pre-existing food and drug labeling law. Provides for monetary penalties.

New York
Sixteen bills concerning genetically modified organisms were introduced in New York. Twelve bills are pending and four have failed. Seven bills concern identifying or labeling food containing food derived from genetic engineering. Two bills relate to the use of genetically modified seeds. Three failed bills relate to GMOs in vaccines.

Damages for Violation of Patent
NY A 298
Identical: NY S 3085
Author: Abinanti
Disposition: Pending
Summary: Establishes an affirmative defense for causes of action related to violation of a patent, trademark or other intellectual property right on grounds that a party possessed or used seeds or plants that contained genetically engineered or genetically modified organisms without entering into an agreement or paying fees to the manufacturer or licensed distributor of such products.

Labeling of Genetic Engineering Products
NY A 617
Identical: NY S 485
Author: Rosenthal
Disposition: Pending
Summary: Provides for the labeling of raw agricultural commodities, processed foods, seed and seed stock produced with genetic engineering. Defines terms. Imposes penalties for false labels and misbranding. Sets forth exemptions.

Labeling of Genetically Engineered Seeds
NY A 641
Author: Rosenthal
Disposition: Pending
Summary: Requires all seeds that are or include genetically engineered organisms to be labeled "These are genetically engineered seeds," and include labeling on the identity of the relevant traits and characteristics introduced into such seed, any requirements for the safe handling, storage, transport and use of the seed, the name, address and telephone number of the manufacturer of the seed and the person who labeled, sells, offers for sale or exposes such seed for sale.
Genetically Modified Organism Registry
NY A 652
Author: Rosenthal
Disposition: Pending
Summary: Establishes a genetically modified organism registry within the department of agriculture and markets. Provides that such registry shall include information on the location, type and use of genetically modified organisms possessed and used by institutions of higher education, and included in seeds sold and distributed in this state.

Authorized Health Care Professionals
NY A 1536
Author: Abinanti
Disposition: Failed
Summary: Requires authorized health care professionals, prior to administering a vaccine, to provide patients with information relating to genetically modified organisms, and provide them the option to receive a non-genetically modified organism vaccine.

Vaccines Containing Genetically Modified Organisms
NY A 1706
Author: Abinanti
Disposition: Failed
Summary: Bans the use of vaccines containing genetically modified organisms.

Labeling of Certain Vaccines
NY A 2447
Author: Abinanti
Disposition: Failed
Summary: Relates to the labeling of vaccines containing genetically modified organisms.

Task Force on Genetically Modified Organisms in Food
NY A 3251
Author: Titus
Disposition: Pending
Summary: Creates a task force to monitor and report on the effects of the use of genetically modified organisms in the food supply.

Study of Genetically Modified Organisms
NY A 3407
Author: Titone
Disposition: Pending
Summary: Requires a study of genetically modified organisms and cross pollination, the impact on wildlife, and the effect on human consumption. Requires reporting and recommendations by Department of Agriculture and Markets, DEC, and Department of Health.
Labeling of Consumable Commodities
NY A 4205
Author: Titus
Disposition: Pending
Summary: Relates to requiring clear and conspicuous labeling of all consumable commodities, including infant formula.

New York Right To Know Genetically Engineered Food Act
NY A 4233
Author: Abinanti
Disposition: Pending
Summary: Enacts the "New York Right to Know Genetically Engineered Food Act," which relates to labeling food products derived from or containing products which are genetically engineered.

Planting and Growing of Genetically Modified Crops
NY A 5116
Author: Abinanti
Disposition: Pending
Summary: Enacts provisions imposing a five-year moratorium on the planting and growing of genetically modified crops in New York and the use of a marketing plan to promote New York state agricultural products. Defines "genetically modified crops." Exempts such genetically modified crops planted and grown for the sole purpose of conducting research and not for sale.

Labeling of Certain Food Products
NY A 8017
Author: Crouch
Disposition: Failed
Summary: Relates to requiring labeling indicating a food product is free of genetically modified organisms.

Labeling of Genetically Engineered Products
NY S 435
Identical: NY A 617
Author: LA Valle
Disposition: Pending
Summary: Provides for the labeling of raw agricultural commodities, processed foods, seed, and seed stock produced with genetic engineering. Imposes penalties for false labels and misbranding. Sets forth exemptions.

Affirmative Defense for Causes of Actions
NY S 3085
Identical: NY A 298
Author: Young
Disposition: Pending
Summary: Establishes an affirmative defense for causes of actions related to violation of a
patent, trademark or other intellectual property right on grounds that a party possessed or
used seeds or plants that contained genetically engineered or genetically modified organisms
without entering into an agreement or paying fees to the manufacturer or licensed distributor
of such products.

Labeling of Food or Food Products
NY S 3802
Author: Sanders
Disposition: Pending
Summary: Provides for the labeling of food or food products that contain a genetically
engineered material or that are produced with a genetically engineered material. Defines
terms. Imposes penalties for false labels and misbranding. Sets forth exemptions.

Oklahoma
One bill concerning product labeling for food or seed containing genetically altered products
remains pending.

Agriculture
OK H 1370
Author: Griffith
Disposition: Pending - Carryover
Summary: Relates to agriculture. Defines terms. Requires certain food or seed stock to contain
certain labeling. Provides that certain food or seed stock that does not contain certain labeling
be considered misbranded. Provides for exceptions. Permits Oklahoma Department of
Agriculture, Food and Forestry to promulgate certain rules. Relates to liability.

Oregon
Six bills concerning genetically modified organisms were introduced in Oregon. One has been
sent to the governor, the rest are pending. One pending bill relates to labeling food when it
contains GMOs. Four bills relate to the Department of Agriculture creating controlled areas for
genetically modified plant products. One bill relates to genetically modified fish.

State Department of Agriculture
OR H 2509
Author: Clem
Disposition: To governor
Summary: Allows a person to file mediation request with the state Department of Agriculture if
the person has reasonable belief that agricultural or horticultural practice on nearby land is
interfering or might interfere with farming practice. Requires the department to provide
mediation services or refer a person to federally certified mediation program. Caps department
charges for mediation services. Allows court making determination whether to grant injunctive relief to consider party unwillingness to mediate.

State Department of Agriculture
OR H 2674
Author: Buckey
Disposition: Pending
Summary: Requires State Department of Agriculture to establish control areas for growing commodities that are genetically engineered agricultural or horticultural plant products. Makes genetically engineered commodity grown outside authorized control area subject to eradication. Requires department to establish program for regulating growing of genetically engineered commodities not approved for unregulated use. Requires the department to establish program to provide financial assistance to people claiming damages.

Certain Merchants
OR H 2675
Author: Buckley
Disposition: Pending
Summary: Requires certain merchants to provide State Department of Agriculture with copies of royalty agreements signed by purchasers of propagants of proprietary genetically engineered crops. Requires purchaser that has signed royalty agreement to provide information regarding disposition of purchased propagants to department upon request. Authorizes department to designate crop production areas for species of proprietary genetically engineered crops. Prohibits production of proprietary genetically engineered products.

Legislative Findings and Declarations
OR H 3121
Author: Holvey
Disposition: Pending
Summary: Makes legislative findings and declarations regarding genetically engineered food. Requires labeling of genetically engineered raw agricultural commodities and packages of genetically engineered processed food offered or expected to be offered for retail sale within state. Declares commodity or food misbranded if not labeled as required. Authorizes person adversely affected or aggrieved by violation of labeling requirement to bring action on behalf of public interest seeking injunction against continued misbranding.

Farming Cultivation
OR H 3122
Author: Holvey
Disposition: Pending
Summary: Prohibits farming, cultivation, incubation or inducement to spawn in this state of Atlantic salmon or genetically engineered fish that may come into contact with or spread contagious diseases to native anadromous fish. Provides exceptions. Becomes operative Jan. 1, 2016. Declares emergency, effective on passage.
State Department of Agriculture  
OR S 207  
Author: Office of the governor  
Disposition: Pending  
Summary: Authorizes State Department of Agriculture to establish control areas for genetically engineered plants and other plants to avoid conflicts between growers.

**Pennsylvania**  
Pennsylvania adopted PA SR 95, urging the use of science-based data in regulating crop protection chemistry and nutrients.

Urges Federal and State Regulatory Agencies  
PA SR 95  
Author: Vogel  
Disposition: Adopted  
Summary: Urges federal and state regulatory agencies to utilize science-based data in evaluating crop protection chemistry and nutrients.

**Rhode Island**  
Seven bills concerning genetic engineering were introduced. One was adopted. RI H 5078 supports the use of science-based data in regulating crop protection chemistry and nutrients. Six failed bills relate to labeling requirements for genetically engineered food.

Urges Federal and State Regulatory Agencies  
RI H 5078  
Author: Hull  
Disposition: Adopted  
Summary: Urges federal and state regulatory agencies to utilize science-based data in evaluating crop protection chemistry and nutrients.

Food and Drugs  
RI H 5197  
Author: Canario  
Disposition: Failed - Adjourned  
Summary: Would require the labeling of all raw and packaged food that is entirely or partially produced with genetic engineering, commencing Jan. 1, 2016. This act would take effect upon passage.

Food and Drugs  
RI H 5502  
Author: Filippi  
Disposition: Failed - Adjourned
Summary: Would require all businesses that sell food and have gross annual sales of more $500,000, with the exception of restaurants, to post signs that informs their customers that all the products they have offered for sale contain genetically modified organisms unless there labels say otherwise. This act would take effect upon passage.

Milk Sanitation Code
RI H 5587
Author: Lima
Disposition: Failed - Adjourned
Summary: Would require that labels or marks on milk or milk products include information disclosing whether such milk or milk product has been genetically engineered or modified. This act would take effect upon passage.

Food and Drugs
RI S 93
Author: Walaska
Disposition: Failed - Adjourned
Summary: Would facilitate accurate labeling for food or food products that are produced or made in Rhode Island and consist of or contain genetically modified organisms. It would require the manufacturer or retailer to label such items before putting them on the market for sale in Rhode Island. This act would take effect on July 1, 2016.

Food and Drugs
RI S 549
Author: Nesselbush
Disposition: Failed – Adjourned
Summary: Would require that all genetically engineered food offered for retail sale in this state contain a label with the disclosure that the food is genetically engineered food. This act would take effect on Jan. 1, 2017.

Food and Drugs
RI S 557
Author: Nesselbush
Disposition: Failed - Adjourned
Summary: Would require that all genetically engineered food offered for retail sale in this state contain a label with the disclosure that the food is genetically engineered food, upon the occurrence of four other states adopting similar mandatory labeling laws, as specified in this act. This act would take effect upon passage.

Tennessee
Seven bills in Tennessee related to genetically modified organisms. Six remain pending. One was enacted. Statement of Intent (TN HJR 218) supports use of science-based data to assess the impacts and regulation of modern agricultural technologies. Two identical bills relate to a program to verify food to be labeled non-GMO. Two identical bills relate to labeling seeds
derived from genetically modified products. Two identical bills enact the Genetically Engineered Food Labeling Act, requiring labeling of foods that are or contain genetically engineered products.

Food and Food Products  
TN H 521  
Identical: TN S 394  
Author: Butt  
Disposition: Pending - Carryover  
Summary: Relates to Food and Food Products. Authorizes a person, company or entity to participate in the Non-GMO Project's product verification program to ensure that the food is not genetically engineered.

Agriculture  
TN H 1217  
Author: Towns  
Disposition: Pending - Carryover  
Summary: Relates to agriculture. Requires that plants and seeds sold be labeled to indicate open pollination, genetic modification, and hybridization.

Food and Food Products  
TN H 1218  
Identical: TN S 696  
Author: Towns  
Disposition: Pending - Carryover  
Summary: Relates to food and food products. Enacts the Genetically Engineered Food Labeling Act.

Statement of Intent or Position  
TN HJR 218  
Author: Brooks  
Disposition: Enacted  
Summary: Relates to Statement of Intent or Position. Supports use of science-based data to assess the impacts and regulation of modern agricultural technologies.

Food and Food Products  
TN S 394  
Identical: TN H 521  
Author: Niceley  
Disposition: Pending - Carryover  
Summary: Relates to food and food products. Authorizes a person, company or entity to participate in the Non-GMO Projects products verification program to ensure that the food is not genetically engineered.
Agriculture
TN S 551
Identical: TN H 1217
Author: Niceley
Disposition: Pending - Carryover
Summary: Relates to agriculture. Requires that plants and seeds sold in Tennessee be labeled to indicate open pollination, genetic modification and hybridization.

Food and Food Products
TN S 696
Identical: TN H 1218
Author: Niceley
Disposition: Pending - Carryover
Summary: Relates to food and food Products. Enacts the Genetically Engineered Food Labeling Act.

Texas
Two bills concerning genetically modified organisms were introduced. One failed that related to labeling GMO foods. TX HR 1508, which passed, supports sound science to study and regulate agricultural technology.

Labeling of Genetically Modified Food
TX H 3499
Author: Alvarado
Disposition: Failed - Adjourned
Summary: Relates to the labeling of genetically modified food. Authorizes a civil penalty.

Sound Science to Study Modern Agricultural Technologies
TX HR 1508
Author: King
Disposition: Adopted
Summary: Expresses support for the use of sound science to study and regulate modern agricultural technologies and opposition to legislative or regulatory action that may result in unnecessary restrictions on the technologies.

Virginia
Genetically Engineered Foods
VA H 1591
Author: DeSteph
Disposition: Failed
Summary: Relates to genetically engineered foods. Defines genetically engineered foods. Establishes conditions under which a food must be labeled as genetically
engineered and must, in some cases, bear additional labeling. Provides that a violation is a Class 3 misdemeanor.

**Washington**

Washington passed a resolution congratulating Dr. Hall, and expressing gratitude and appreciation for his contribution to the field of yeast technology and the invention of the Hepatitis B vaccine through his work with genetic engineering.

Personal Congratulatory
WA SR 8676
Author: Chase
Disposition: Adopted
Summary: Congratulates Dr. Benjamin Hall upon his election as a fellow to the National Academy of Sciences, and commends his work to genetically engineering proteins in yeast to create coat proteins. These coat proteins formed the basis for the world's first genetically engineered vaccine against a human disease, the first vaccine against a sexually transmitted disease, and the first vaccine against a virus that leads to human cancer.

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