
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO COMPILE A REPORT
ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED FOOD CROPS.

1 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii has a strong interest in
2 promoting diversified agriculture as a means to help our island
3 state achieve greater self-sufficiency; and
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5 WHEREAS, genetic modification of food crops is a
6 controversial issue; and
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8 WHEREAS, proponents of genetic modification of food crops
9 say that crops can be genetically modified to increase their
10 resistance to disease and harmful insects and that further
11 research, including field testing, is needed; and
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13 WHEREAS, opponents of genetic modification of food crops
14 say that they fear that pollen from genetically modified crops
15 might contaminate non-genetically modified crops, particularly
16 organically grown crops; and
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18 WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the State of Hawaii to
19 protect the viability and sustainability of its diversified
20 agriculture industry; and
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22 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii also has a strong interest in
23 protecting our precious environment and food sources and
24 promoting the health and safety of the public; and
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26 WHEREAS, the Legislature needs impartial information in
27 order to make an informed decision; now, therefore,
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29 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
30 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, the
31 House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislative
32 Reference Bureau is requested to compile a report on genetically
33 modified food crops; and



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2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference
3 Bureau is requested to include in its report:

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5 (1) A summary of findings from the literature on the
6 issue, including the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation's
7 coexistence report;
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9 (2) A summary of arguments for and against genetically
10 modified food crops, including benefits and drawbacks;
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12 (3) Information on laws in other states that regulate
13 genetically modified food crops, including the use of
14 moratoria;
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16 (4) Information on the types of genetically modified food
17 crops that are now being grown in Hawaii and available
18 information on:
19 (A) Revenues generated;
20 (B) Acreage used; and
21 (C) Workers employed;
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23 (5) Information on which companies are currently growing
24 genetically modified food crops in Hawaii and which
25 islands they are growing them on;
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27 (6) Information to the extent practical of sites in Hawaii
28 where genetically modified food crops are being field
29 tested or grown;
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31 (7) Information on what precautions are being taken by
32 growers of genetically modified food crops in Hawaii
33 to prevent or minimize cross-contamination with non-
34 genetically modified food crops;
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36 (8) A discussion of the risks and consequences of cross-
37 contamination of non-genetically modified food crops;
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40 (9) Possible compromises between proponents and opponents
41 of genetically modified food crops; and
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference Bureau is also requested to explore possible regulation to prevent cross-contamination of non-genetically modified food crops; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference Bureau is further requested to consult with any interested parties in both the public and private sectors for assistance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to submit any findings and recommendations, including any necessary proposed legislation, to the Legislature not later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2008; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau, the President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, and the President of the University of Hawaii, and the Dean of the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

