

SENATE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE MEMORIAL 62

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO ASSIGN TO THE
APPROPRIATE INTERIM LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE A STUDY OF THE
FEASIBILITY AND EFFECTS OF REQUIRING LABELING OF FOOD
CONTAINING GENETICALLY ENGINEERED AND GENETICALLY MODIFIED
INGREDIENTS.

WHEREAS, the biotechnology of genetically engineered foods
has advanced rapidly over the past several years; and

WHEREAS, consumers demand greater variety, quality and
safety in the foods they eat; and

WHEREAS, a national and international debate regarding the
labeling of genetically engineered foods has occurred over the
past several years; and

WHEREAS, citizens in Japan, China, Australia, New Zealand,
the fifteen European union nations and several other countries

1 require the labeling of genetically engineered foods; and

2 WHEREAS, some polls indicate that a majority of Americans
3 want genetically engineered foods to be labeled; and

4 WHEREAS, the United States food and drug administration
5 has issued proposed rules for the labeling of genetically
6 engineered foods but has not issued final rules;

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
8 OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico legislative council be
9 requested to direct the appropriate interim legislative
10 committee to study the feasibility and effects of requiring
11 labeling of food containing genetically engineered and
12 genetically modified ingredients; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the appropriate interim
14 legislative committee seek the advice and cooperation of the
15 department of health, the department of environment, the
16 economic development department and the New Mexico department
17 of agriculture; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study be completed by
19 December 31, 2003; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
21 transmitted to the New Mexico legislative council, the
22 secretary of health, the secretary of environment, the
23 secretary of economic development and the director of the New
24 Mexico department of agriculture.