

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a 19 year old honors student at the University of Connecticut. I have lived all my life in Salem, CT, a small rural town in New London county. I **strongly support Bill 5117** and the labeling of genetically modified foods. Countless sources state that the long-term health effects of consuming these products have simply not been studied in a scientific and unbiased way. Many of the studies that have been conducted were sponsored by the industries that profit most from GM technology in agriculture. But potential safety issues are not the main reason why I believe this bill should be passed.

Simply put, consumers have a right to know what they're buying. As the current laws stand, it is impossible to know which products contain GMO's, which I believe is a violation of our rights as consumers. Requiring food companies to label products that contain GMO's is no different than requiring companies to list ingredients and nutrition facts. Consumers simply have a right to know.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Hannah Tripp