

## HB 6519

Good Afternoon,

My name is Melissa Cyr and I am a mother of two in West Hartford. I am writing today to express my strong support for HB 6519 concerning the labeling of genetically engineered foods. I feel it is a basic right of your constituents, and of all people, to know what is in the food they consume. As a mother I have been shocked to learn that there have been no sound independent scientific studies completed that attest to the safety of these crops. I have been further horrified by the fact that these ingredients have been put in most of the conventional food on the market in this country today, and done so in a manner which leaves the majority of consumers in the dark. A vast majority of citizens are unaware of this and are therefore exposing themselves and their children to substances that they might not otherwise. After educating myself on these issues, I personally had feelings of being betrayed as well as feelings of guilt for inadvertently exposing my children to something that may yet be proven dangerous. Passing HB6519 would take the guess work out for citizens of this state. Connecticut citizens can make their own, informed, decision as to whether they are going to consume these ingredients. I the Public Health Committee and the Connecticut General Assembly to take a stand against any legal threats of the biotechnology corporations and go forward with strong leadership as a model state for the rest of our nation. So many other nations across Europe and Asia have already done so. This bill is not asking for a ban of genetically engineered crops, it is actually quite a conservative request, and if these biotech firms are so proud of their 'world-problem solving technology' they should not be opposed to the transparency that just labeling it would provide! Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Melissa Cyr