

**I am writing because I want you to support the GMO labeling bill HB 6519**

I was diagnosed with cancer at just 30 years old and since that time have changed my diet to primarily organic and 'transparent' food. At this juncture I have abandoned as many brands as possible that do not label as NON-GMO. Our family also owns a restaurant and our goal there is to be as educated as we can be about our ingredients, suppliers and offerings-- striving everyday to be a non-gmo and organic eatery even though it costs us more to do so. We do this for ourselves and our community.

I am 44 now; a breast cancer survivor for 14 years and my biggest worry about our food and its hidden dangers is how it is affecting young people's hormones, fertility (lack of) and children's health both physically and mentally. I feel fortunate to have an interest and awareness toward this topic and its importance but what about those who do not? Labeling would lead to educating those who may not be as aware of the dangers NOW and it would begin to give them the curiosity and the right to ask the question(s) WHY? Why is our food being tainted? For whose gain? And to what defect and damage to our environment and our health. We, the supporters of this bill are counting on our state to lead the charge on this crucial health issue today.

Please have the courage to do so.

Thank you,

Suzanne Melbinger-Ancona

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