

HB 6519

My name is Jennifer Shafer. I live at 186 Jobs Pond Road, Portland, CT. I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the labeling of Genetically Modified Organisms also known as GMOs. I am the mother of four children and I read labels on all the food I purchase for my family. Nutrition and good health go hand and hand. I am thankful for labels on food so I can avoid ingredients like hydrogenated oils, sugars, and high fructose corn syrup. I spend a lot of time in the store, I am a label reader. It is extremely important for me to know if a product contains GMOs. Since I learned about GMOs and the lack of scientific evidence to prove they are safe for human consumption, I have been avoiding foods with the ingredients that are now commonly genetically modified, soy, canola, corn, beet sugar, papaya, and the list keeps growing!

Soy and canola are in a lot of processed snack foods, condiments, and sauces. I go out of my way to avoid these products unless they are clearly labeled. Some companies are labeling their products on their own, and I am thankful for that! What scares me most is the growing list of GMOs, apples, alfalfa, and zucchini, and no way to know if I am feeding my family a modified organism. Last year both Vermont and Connecticut passed legislation to label GMOs and Monsanto won by being a bully and threatening to sue. Both states as I am sure you are aware backed down. I am here today so that my voice can be heard, and I will be back again until it is. Please, LABEL GMOS! My family is not a science experiment. I have a undeniable right to know what I feed them. I have a right not to consume altered food that may some day have negative health consequences for both myself and my family.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Shafer
Portland, CT