

RESOLUTION NO. 112-12

**A RESOLUTION OF THE RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL IN SUPPORT OF
PROPOSITION 37-THE CALIFORNIA RIGHT TO KNOW GENETICALLY
ENGINEERED FOOD ACT**

WHEREAS, the process of genetic engineering of foods can result in material changes which impact its nutritional value and dietary safety; and,

WHEREAS, California consumers overwhelmingly support labeling of food products in order to be informed whether they contain genetically engineered material; and,

WHEREAS, there are a variety of consumer concerns associated with genetically engineered foods including the potential transfer of allergens to food, religiously and ethically based dietary restrictions; and other health and safety concerns; and,

WHEREAS, there are well documented potential environmental risks associated with genetically engineered crops including increased herbicide use on herbicide resistant crops; deleterious effects on native fauna and soil biology; inadvertent creation of “super weeds” which *require* larger and more potent applications of herbicides; and,

WHEREAS, labels voluntarily placed on food products are insufficient to provide consumers with adequate information on whether or not the food they are purchasing contains or was produced with genetically engineered material; and,

WHEREAS, consumers have a legal right to know what they are eating under the 1992 U.S. Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act which states labeling is misleading if it fails to reveal “material” facts; and,

WHEREAS, 50 other countries have some form of mandatory labeling of Genetically Engineered food; and,

WHEREAS, public health and consumer groups share the concern that genetically engineered crops have contaminated native and related species, and that genetically engineered seeds can be spread by wind, insects or birds, contaminating conventional and organic food crops; and,

WHEREAS, it is a fundamental human right to know the content of one’s food and to make informed decisions based upon personal health and other factors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Richmond City Council declares support for the *California Right to Know Genetically Engineered Food Act of 2012* that requires labeling of genetically engineered food.

I certify that the foregoing Resolution was passed and adopted by the Members of the City Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting held on September 18, 2012, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Bates, Beckles, Boozé, Butt, Ritterman, Vice Mayor Rogers, and Mayor McLaughlin.

NOES: None.

ABSTENTIONS: None.

ABSENT: None.

DIANE HOLMES
CLERK OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND

(SEAL)

Approved:

GAYLE MCLAUGHLIN
Mayor

Approved as to form:

BRUCE GOODMILLER
City Attorney

State of California }
County of Contra Costa } : ss.
City of Richmond }

I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of Resolution No. 112-12, finally passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting held on September 18, 2012.