

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 2196

By Mr. Marzilli of Arlington, petition of J. James Marzilli, Jr. relative to the use of genetically engineered organisms in the production of food products. Public Health.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 1 of chapter 94 of the General Laws as  
2 appearing in the 2002 Official Edition, is hereby amended by  
3 inserting the following:—

4 (a) “Genetically engineered” shall mean:—

5 (1) An organism that has been altered at the molecular or cellular  
6 level by means that are not possible under natural conditions or  
7 processes (including recombinant DNA and RNA techniques, cell  
8 fusion, microencapsulation, gene deletion and doubling, introduction  
9 of foreign genes, and a process that changes the positions of genes),  
10 other than means consisting exclusively of breeding, conjugation,  
11 fermentation, hybridization, in vitro fertilization, or tissue culture; or

12 (2) The offspring of an altered organism, if the offspring pos-  
13 sesses any of the changed molecular or cellular characteristics of the  
14 parent.

15 (b) “Genetically engineered food” means items for human con-  
16 sumption that contain or were produced using seeds or hormones  
17 that consist wholly or partly of genetically engineered organisms.

1 SECTION 2. Chapter 94 of the General Laws as appearing in the  
2 2002 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following  
3 sections after section 328:—

4 Section 329:—

5 Any person or corporation who utilizes genetically engineered  
6 organisms in the production of food products for use and sale,  
7 including, but not limited to, seeds, hormones, produce, fresh or

8 processed food products and foodstuffs and other products for con-  
9 sumption, shall conspicuously label said products with a label indi-  
10 cating the presence of genetically modified organisms as either a  
11 component for production or ingredient in said product. The  
12 following shall be acceptable notification:—

13 THIS PRODUCT CONTAINS A GENETICALLY ENGI-  
14 NEERED MATERIAL, OR WAS PRODUCED WITH A GENETI-  
15 CALLY ENGINEERED MATERIAL.

1 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage.