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MONSANTO CO.
94-520 KUNIA ROAD
KUNIA, HAWAII 96759

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE
City Council
April 25, 2012
10:00 AM

Resolution 12-57

“Urging the State of Hawaii and the United States Food and Drug Administration to require labeling of genetically engineered food.”

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Chair and Committee members:

My name is Mark Wood, and I am the Hawaii Manufacturing Lead for Monsanto Hawaii. We oppose Resolution 12-57 “Urging the State of Hawaii and the United States Food and Drug Administration to require labeling of Genetically Engineered Food.” I have a PhD in Crop Science and have participated in the development of many of these products and would be happy to try and answer any questions regarding these products.

The United States Department of Agriculture along with the Environmental Protection Agency and finally the Food and Drug Administration are tasked with keeping our food supply and Environment safe for years to come. Products produced via genetic engineering are some of the most tested items in the market place. They have been repeatedly tested for adverse affects to the environment, allergens that could arise in the food supply or deleterious impacts to wildlife from release. To date, there have been no issues arise from any genetically modified organism. The crops utilized today are of the same origin they were prior to the insertion of the trait. Numerous studies have been conducted on the positive impacts to the environment from these crops and the resulting food supplies because of their use. My colleagues have highlighted articles for your review and I would also be happy to provide additional background on this topic. Please take into consideration the scientific facts before we require unnecessary labeling to consumers in the State of Hawaii.

I respectfully request the Council reject this resolution as there is no scientific basis to warrant labeling of GMO foods.

Thank you.

Mark L. Wood, Ph.D.
Hawaii/West Manufacturing Lead

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