

13-0002-822

RULES, ELECTIONS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, despite overwhelming opposition from citizens and public interest groups to genetically engineered (GE) food, including 400,000 public comments opposing GE salmon, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced December 26, 2012 that it is prepared to give transgenic salmon its final stamp of approval; and

WHEREAS, the FDA has not conducted any safety testing and has generally neglected to adequately address serious concerns about the safety of consuming salmon that has been genetically engineered to produce growth hormones at all times, allowing it to grow faster and bigger than natural salmon; and

WHEREAS, scientists have predicted that the introduction of GE salmon into populations of native salmon could have severely detrimental ecological and economic impacts on coastal communities whose livelihood depends heavily on fishing, including the devastation of populations of native salmon, as well as other fish and marine mammals that feed on native salmon populations; and

WHEREAS, with the exception of Alaska, the FDA will not require GE salmon to be labeled as GE, which presents religious observance concerns for Jews and Muslims, due to use of pout fish genes - which is a type of eel; and

WHEREAS, the City previously adopted a Resolution (Koretz - Englander) to include in its 2011-2012 State Legislative Program support for Proposition 37, the California Right to Know Genetically Engineered Food Act, which would have mandated the disclosure of genetically engineered foods;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that upon the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2013-2014 Federal Legislative Program opposition to any action by the Food and Drug Administration to approve genetically engineered salmon and support for any legislation which would prohibit the Food and Drug Administration from such an approval.

ORIGINAL

PRESENTED BY Paul Koretz
PAUL KORETZ
Councilmember, 5th District

SECONDED BY Bill Russell

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JSB

FEB 1 2013