

EXEMPTIONS FROM LABELING in LD 7181

Restaurants

Products from animals fed GMOs

Alcoholic beverages

Products with less than 0.9% GM ingredients

Medical food

What labels do consumers already rely on in the U.S.?

A "Country of Origin" label is required for fresh lamb, pork, beef, fish, shellfish, fruits, vegetables and some nuts.2

> The FDA's "Gluten-Free" labeling regulations protect Americans with celiac disease.3



FROM CONCENTRATE

The FDA requires orange juice "from concentrate" to ORANGE JUICE be labeled, and even regulates the minimum size of the label text.4

Right to Know **GMO**

- Over 90% of Americans think that the government should require manufacturers to label GM foods.5
- Because most food allergens are proteins and GM foods contain novel proteins, people with severe allergies may want to identify what is in their food.
- In 1962, President John F. Kennedy presented to Congress a "Consumer Bill of Rights" that included the rights to safety, to be informed, to choose and to be heard. GMO labeling ensures all four.6
- According to the 1990 Nutrition Labeling and Education Act, U.S. law requires packaged food to have nutritional labels. A label saying "Produced with Genetic Engineering" is not a nutrition or ingredient label, and is not preempted by this act.⁷
- Transparency through labeling is critical to the operation of the *free market*.

"Mainers have a right to know what is in our food. For dietary, health and religious reasons, people just want to know what they are eating."

State Representative *Lance Harvell – R, Farmington*

Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association



COMMON GROUND COUNTRY FAIR

ACT NOW! Find more information about the need for GMO labeling at www.mofga.org

www.mofga.org/Programs/PublicPolicyInitiatives/RightToKnowGMOMaine/tabid/2540/Default.aspx

REFERENCES

- ¹ LD 718, "An Act To Protect Maine Food Consumers' Right To Know About Genetically Engineered Food and Seed Stock," www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/bills_126th/billtexts/HP049001.asp
- ² 7 CFR (Code of Federal Regulations) Part 60 & 65, www.ams.usda.gov/AMSv1.0/getfile?dDocName=STELPRDC5074925
- ³ The Hill. 2013. "Gluten-Free' labeling rules head to White House," http://thehill.com/blogs/regwatch/healthcare/284929-gluten-free-labeling-rules-head-to-white-house
- ⁴ U.S. Food and Drug Administration. 2012. "CFR Code of Federal Regulations Title 21," www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cdrh/cfdocs/cfcfr/cfrsearch.cfm
- ⁵ Just Label It! FAQs, justlabelit.org/faqs/
- ⁶ Fooducate. 2012. "1862-2012: A Brief History of Food and Nutrition Labeling," http://blog.fooducate.com/2008/10/25/1862-2008-a-brief-history-of-food-and-nutrition-labeling/
- ⁷ Fooducate. 2012. "1862-2012: A Brief History of Food and Nutrition Labeling"; 21 United States Code §343 et seq., www.gpo.gov/fdsys/granule/USCODE-2011-title21/USCODE-2011-title21-chap9-subchapIV-sec343-1/content-detail.html