

**Washington State Nurses Association
Resolution #1
Mandatory Labeling of Genetically Engineered Food**

Whereas,

Lack of labeling denies health professionals the ability to trace potential toxic [1] or allergic reactions [2] [3] [4] to, and other adverse health effects [5] [6] [7] from, genetically engineered food; and

Whereas,

The World Health Organization issued warnings on the use of antibiotic resistance marker genes in genetically engineered food [8]; and

Whereas,

In order to make informed decisions, the public needs to be made aware of the contents of their food just as patients need to be aware of the risks, benefits and alternatives to their medical and surgical treatments; and

Whereas,

Crop scientists complain that they must ask biotechnology corporations for permission before conducting or publishing independent research on genetically engineered crops [9] [10]; and

Whereas,

40 countries require labeling of genetically engineered food, including the European Union, Australia, Japan, Russia, China, New Zealand, Brazil and South Africa [11]; and

Whereas,

The American Public Health Association [12], American Nurses Association [13], the British Medical Association [14] and the Irish Medical Organization [15] support the labeling of genetically engineered food products; and

Whereas,

Catholic Healthcare West (a network of 41 hospitals and 10,000 physicians) avoids genetically engineered food and advocates for public policies that include the labeling of genetically engineered food [16]; and

Whereas,

304 U.S. hospitals and medical centers have signed the Healthy Food in Health Care Pledge, encouraging vendors to supply food that is produced without genetic modification [17]; and

Whereas,

Surveys of the U.S. public consistently show overwhelming support for the labeling of genetically engineered food [18] [19];

Be it Therefore Resolved, that WSNA recommend that ANA support federal action that requires clear labeling of all food produced from genetically engineered seed.

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