

S 511

Genetically Engineered Food Right-to-Know Act

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Feb 12, 2015

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Feb 12, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/511>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Boxer, Barbara [D-CA]

Party: Democratic • **State:** CA • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (14 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Feb 12, 2015
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Feb 12, 2015
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Feb 12, 2015
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Feb 12, 2015
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Feb 12, 2015
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Feb 12, 2015
Sen. Mikulski, Barbara A. [D-MD]	D · MD		Feb 12, 2015
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		Feb 12, 2015
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Feb 12, 2015
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Feb 12, 2015
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Feb 12, 2015
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Feb 12, 2015
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Feb 12, 2015
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Mar 4, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Feb 12, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 913	Identical bill	Feb 13, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Summary (as of Feb 12, 2015)

Genetically Engineered Food Right-to-Know Act

This bill amends the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to prohibit the sale of food that has been genetically engineered or contains genetically engineered ingredients, unless that information is clearly disclosed.

This prohibition does not apply to: (1) food served in restaurants, (2) medical food, (3) packaged food that is less than 0.9% genetically engineered material, and (4) food that qualifies as genetically engineered solely because it is produced using a genetically engineered vaccine or because it includes the use of a genetically engineered processing aid (including yeast) or enzyme.

Labeling or advertising foods containing genetically engineered material as “natural,” or using similar words, is prohibited.

A food recipient is not subject to penalties for misbranding of genetically engineered food or ingredients if the recipient has a guaranty that is signed by the person from whom they received the food (including seeds) and the guaranty states that the food is not genetically engineered or does not contain a genetically engineered ingredient.

Food is deemed to have been produced without the knowing or intentional use of genetic engineering if: (1) the food is certified as organic; or (2) an independent organization determines the food has not been knowingly or intentionally genetically engineered or commingled with genetically engineered food, with that determination being based on testing that is consistent with international standards and not reliant on processed foods with no detectable DNA.

An agricultural producer is not subject to penalties for misbranding of genetically engineered food or ingredients if a violation occurs because food unintentionally becomes contaminated with genetically engineered material and the contamination is not due to the producer’s negligence.

Actions Timeline

No actions are recorded for this bill.

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