

Rep. Roberts offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 193.

A resolution to urge the Food and Drug Administration to require that genetically modified foods be labeled as such and to allow non-genetically modified foods to be labeled as GMO-free.

Whereas, Genetically modified foods are developed using recombinant deoxyribonucleic acid (rDNA) technology, which is often referred to as "genetic engineering" or "biotechnology." These foods are created by transferring genes from one organism or species into another organism or species; and

Whereas, Genetically modified foods may be risky. Despite scientific advancements, scientists cannot predict exactly where in an organism's genome an inserted gene will end up. A gene's location is very important. The transferred gene could end up causing a mutation that could lead to the production of a toxin or an allergen; and

Whereas, The American public is uncertain about the safety of genetically modified foods. A poll conducted by the Pew Trusts found that only one third of Americans think genetically modified foods are safe; and

Whereas, American consumers should have the freedom of choice in the health and safety of the foods they eat. Consumers want to know how much fat, sugar, and salt are in their foods because they are concerned about their health; and

Whereas, Since many Americans think genetically modified foods may not be safe, they should be able to avoid foods that were developed using genetic engineering. When polled, Americans consistently and overwhelmingly think the federal government should require labels on food saying whether or not it has been genetically modified; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we urge the Food and Drug Administration to require that genetically modified foods be labeled as such and to allow non-genetically modified foods to be labeled as GMO-free; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.