

Proposition 105
Labeling Genetically Modified Food

BALLOT TITLE AND TEXT

The ballot title below is a summary drafted by the professional staff of the offices of the secretary of state, the attorney general, and the legal staff for the general assembly for ballot purposes only. The ballot title will not appear in the Colorado Revised Statutes. The text of the measure that will appear in the Colorado Revised Statutes below was drafted by the proponents of the initiative. The initiated measure is included on the ballot as a proposed change to current law because the proponents gathered the required amount of petition signatures.

Ballot Title: Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning labeling of genetically modified food; and, in connection therewith, requiring food that has been genetically modified or treated with genetically modified material to be labeled, "Produced With Genetic Engineering" starting on July 1, 2016; exempting some foods including but not limited to food from animals that are not genetically modified but have been fed or injected with genetically modified food or drugs, certain food that is not packaged for retail sale and is intended for immediate human consumption, alcoholic beverages, food for animals, and medically prescribed food; requiring the Colorado department of public health and environment to regulate the labeling of genetically modified food; and specifying that no private right of action is created for failure to conform to the labeling requirements?

Text of Measure:

Be it Enacted by the People of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 25-5-401.5 as follows:

25-5-401.5. Legislative declaration. (1) THE ELECTORATE OF COLORADO HEREBY FINDS, DETERMINES, AND DECLARES THAT:

(1) LABELING OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED FOOD IS INTENDED TO PROVIDE CONSUMERS WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE AN INFORMED CHOICE OF THE PRODUCTS THEY CONSUME AND TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC'S HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE;

(2) PERSONS WITH CERTAIN RELIGIOUS, CULTURAL AND MORAL BELIEFS OBJECT TO CONSUMING GENETICALLY MODIFIED FOOD BECAUSE OF OBJECTIONS TO TAMPERING WITH THE GENETIC MAKEUP OF LIFE FORMS AND THE RAPID INTRODUCTION AND PROLIFERATION OF GENETICALLY ENGINEERED ORGANISMS;

(3) U.S. FEDERAL LAW DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR THE REGULATION OF THE SAFETY AND LABELING OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED FOOD;

(4) THE LONG TERM HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES OF GROWING AND CONSUMING GENETICALLY MODIFIED FOOD ARE NOT YET FULLY RESEARCHED AND ARE NOT YET WELL UNDERSTOOD BY SCIENCE;

(5) CONSUMERS HAVE A RIGHT TO KNOW IF THE FOOD THEY ARE CONSUMING HAS BEEN GENETICALLY MODIFIED OR HAS BEEN PRODUCED WITH GENETIC ENGINEERING.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-5-402, **add** (8.5), (9.5), (12.5), (15.5), (16.5), (20.3), (20.5), and (21.5) as follows:

25-5-402. Definitions. As used in this part 4, unless the context otherwise requires:

(8.5) "DISTRIBUTOR" MEANS A PERSON OR BUSINESS ENGAGED IN ANY METHOD OF DISTRIBUTING OR TRANSPORTING A FOOD OR FOOD PRODUCT FROM ONE PLACE TO ANOTHER.

(9.5) "ENZYME" MEANS A PROTEIN THAT CATALYZES CHEMICAL REACTIONS OF OTHER SUBSTANCES WITHOUT BEING DESTROYED OR ALTERED UPON COMPLETION OF SUCH REACTIONS.

(12.5) "GENETICALLY ENGINEERED" OR "GENETICALLY MODIFIED" MEANS FOOD PRODUCED FROM OR WITH AN ORGANISM OR ORGANISMS WITH ITS GENETICS ALTERED THROUGH APPLICATION OF:

(a) IN VITRO AND IN VIVO NUCLEIC ACID TECHNIQUES, INCLUDING RECOMBITANT DEOXYRIBONUCLEIC ACID (DNA) TECHNIQUES AND THE DIRECT INJECTION OF NUCLEIC ACID INTO CELLS OR ORGANELLES; OR

(b) METHODS OF FUSING CELLS BEYOND THE TAXONOMIC FAMILY THAT OVERCOME NATURAL PHYSIOLOGICAL REPRODUCTIVE OR RECOMBINANT BARRIERS, AND THAT ARE NOT TECHNIQUES USED IN TRADITIONAL BREEDING AND SELECTION SUCH AS CONJUGATION, TRANSDUCTION, AND HYBRIDIZATION.

(c) A FOOD SHALL OTHERWISE BE CONSIDERED TO BE GENETICALLY ENGINEERED IF:

(i) THE ORGANISM FROM WHICH THE FOOD IS DERIVED HAS BEEN TREATED WITH A GENETICALLY ENGINEERED MATERIAL; EXCEPT THAT THE USE OF MANURE AS A FERTILIZER FOR RAW AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO MEAN THAT SUCH COMMODITIES ARE PRODUCED WITH A GENETICALLY ENGINEERED MATERIAL; OR

(ii) THE FOOD CONTAINS AN INGREDIENT, COMPONENT, OR OTHER ARTICLE THAT IS GENETICALLY ENGINEERED.

(15.5) "MANUFACTURER" MEANS A PERSON OR BUSINESS ENGAGED IN THE PRODUCTION OR PROCESSING OF SEED, SEED STOCK, FOOD, OR ANY FOOD PRODUCT.

(16.5) "ORGANISM" MEANS ANY BIOLOGICAL ENTITY CAPABLE OF REPLICATION, REPRODUCTION OR TRANSFERRING GENETIC MATERIAL.

(20.3) "PROCESSED FOOD" MEANS ANY FOOD OTHER THAN A RAW AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY AND INCLUDES ANY FOOD PRODUCED FROM A RAW AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY THAT HAS BEEN SUBJECT TO PROCESSING SUCH AS CANNING, SMOKING, PRESSING, COOKING, FREEZING, DEHYDRATION, FERMENTATION, OR MILLING.

(20.5) "PROCESSING AID" MEANS:

(a) A SUBSTANCE THAT IS ADDED TO A FOOD DURING THE PROCESSING OF THE FOOD BUT IS REMOVED IN SOME MANNER FROM THE FOOD BEFORE IT IS PACKAGED IN ITS FINAL FORM;

(b) A SUBSTANCE THAT IS ADDED TO A FOOD DURING PROCESSING, IS CONVERTED INTO CONSTITUENTS NORMALLY PRESENT IN THE FOOD, AND DOES NOT SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF THE CONSTITUENTS FOUND IN THE FOOD; OR

(c) A SUBSTANCE THAT IS ADDED TO A FOOD FOR ITS TECHNICAL OR FUNCTIONAL EFFECTS IN THE PROCESSING BUT IS PRESENT IN THE FINISHED FOOD AT INSIGNIFICANT LEVELS AND DOES NOT HAVE ANY TECHNICAL OR FUNCTIONAL EFFECT IN THAT FINISHED FOOD.

(21.5) "RETAILER" MEANS A PERSON OR BUSINESS ENGAGED IN SELLING THE FOOD FROM INDIVIDUALS OR BUSINESSES TO THE END-USER.

SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-5-411, **add** (1)(q), (1)(r), (3) and (4) as follows:

25-5-411. Definitions of "misbranding". (1) A food shall be deemed to be misbranded:

(q) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2016, IF IT HAS BEEN GENETICALLY MODIFIED OR HAS BEEN PRODUCED WITH GENETIC ENGINEERING, UNLESS THE WORDS "PRODUCED WITH GENETIC ENGINEERING" APPEAR IN A CLEAR AND CONSPICUOUS MANNER ON ITS LABEL, IN THE CASE OF PACKAGED FOOD. IN THE CASE OF A RAW AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY THAT IS NOT SEPARATELY PACKAGED OR LABELED, THE WORDS "PRODUCED WITH GENETIC ENGINEERING" SHALL BE PLACED IN A CLEAR AND CONSPICUOUS MANNER ON THE CONTAINER USED FOR PACKAGING, HOLDING OR TRANSPORT BY THE MANUFACTURER, AND SHALL BE MAINTAINED BY THE DISTRIBUTOR, AND DISPLAYED IN A CLEAR AND CONSPICUOUS MANNER ON THE RETAIL STORE SHELF OR BIN IN WHICH SUCH COMMODITY IS DISPLAYED FOR SALE BY THE RETAILER. THIS PARAGRAPH (q) OF SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO:

(I) FOOD OR DRINK FOR ANIMALS;

(II) CHEWING GUM;

(III) ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES;

(IV) ANY PROCESSED FOOD THAT WOULD BE SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (q) SOLELY BECAUSE ONE OR MORE PROCESSING AIDS OR ENZYMES WERE PRODUCED OR DERIVED WITH GENETIC ENGINEERING;

(V) ANY FOOD WHICH IS NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE AND THAT EITHER:

(a) IS A PROCESSED FOOD PREPARED AND INTENDED FOR IMMEDIATE HUMAN CONSUMPTION;

(b) IS SERVED, SOLD, OR OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN ANY RESTAURANT OR OTHER FOOD ESTABLISHMENT THAT IS PRIMARILY ENGAGED IN THE SALE OF FOOD PREPARED AND INTENDED FOR IMMEDIATE HUMAN CONSUMPTION;

(VI) FOOD CONSISTING ENTIRELY OF, OR DERIVED ENTIRELY FROM, AN ANIMAL THAT HAS NOT ITSELF BEEN GENETICALLY ENGINEERED, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE ANIMAL HAS BEEN FED OR INJECTED WITH ANY FOOD PRODUCED WITH GENETIC ENGINEERING OR ANY DRUG THAT HAS BEEN PRODUCED THROUGH MEANS OF GENETIC ENGINEERING; OR

(VII) MEDICALLY PRESCRIBED FOOD.

(3) FOOD WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED MISBRANDED UNDER PARAGRAPH (q) OF SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION IF IT IS PRODUCED BY A PERSON WHO:

(a) GROWS, RAISES, OR OTHERWISE PRODUCES SUCH FOOD WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE THAT THE FOOD WAS CREATED WITH SEED OR OTHER FOOD THAT WAS DERIVED IN ANY WAY THROUGH A PROCESS OF GENETIC ENGINEERING; AND

(b) OBTAINS A SWORN STATEMENT FROM THE PARTY THAT SOLD TO SUCH PERSON THE SEED OR FOOD THAT SUCH SUBSTANCE HAS NOT BEEN KNOWINGLY ENGINEERED, WAS ENTIRELY SEGREGATED FROM, AND HAS NOT KNOWINGLY BEEN COMMINGLED WITH A FOOD OR FOOD COMPONENT THAT MAY HAVE BEEN CREATED THROUGH A PROCESS OF GENETIC ENGINEERING. THE SWORN STATEMENT MUST BE OBTAINED AT THE TIME THE SEED OR FOOD IS DELIVERED FROM THE SELLER.

(4) THERE IS NO PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION AGAINST A DISTRIBUTOR, MANUFACTURER, OR RETAILER THAT SELLS OR ADVERTISES FOOD FOR FAILURE TO CONFORM TO THE LABELING REQUIREMENTS UNDER PARAGRAPH (q) OF SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION.

(5) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROMULGATE REGULATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 25-5-420 CONCERNING THE PROCEDURES FOR PROMULGATING SUCH REGULATIONS, TO CARRY OUT THE LABELING REQUIREMENTS OF PARAGRAPH (q) OF SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION. SUCH REGULATIONS MAY PRESCRIBE THE PROCEDURES FOR INSPECTIONS AND TESTING OF PRODUCTS TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH PARAGRAPH (q) OF SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION.