The Honorable Bill Walker  
Governor of Alaska  
P.O. Box 110001  
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Governor Walker:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Alaska fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Bill Walker
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
The Honorable Robert Bentley
Governor of Alabama
State Capitol
600 Dexter Avenue
Montgomery, AL 36130

Dear Governor Bentley:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Alabama fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Robert Bentley
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Asa Hutchinson
Governor of Arkansas
State Capitol Building
Room 250
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Governor Hutchinson:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Arkansas fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Asa Hutchinson
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Doug Ducey
Governor of Arizona
State Capitol Executive Tower, 9th Floor
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Governor Ducey:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the Unites States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Arizona fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Doug Ducey
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Jerry Brown
Governor of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of California fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Jerry Brown
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
The Honorable John Hickenlooper
Governor of Colorado
136 State Capitol Building
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Governor Hickenlooper:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Colorado fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable John Hickenlooper
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Dannel Malloy
Governor of Connecticut
210 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Governor Malloy:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Connecticut fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Jack Markell
Governor of Delaware
Legislative Hall
Dover, DE 19901

Dear Governor Markell:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Delaware fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos  
Under Secretary  
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Rick Scott
Governor of Florida
PL 05 The Capitol
400 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Governor Scott:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(c) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the Unites States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Florida fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Rick Scott
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Nathan Deal
Governor of Georgia
203 State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Governor Deal:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

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I would recommend that the State of Georgia fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Nathan Deal
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
The Honorable Edward Calvo  
Governor of Guam  
Executive Chamber  
P.O. Box 2950  
Hagatna, GU  96932  

Dear Governor Calvo:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the Unites States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the U.S. Territory of Guam fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Edward Calvo
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 0 1 2016

The Honorable David Ige
Governor of Hawaii
Executive Chambers
State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Governor Ige:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Hawaii fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable David Ige
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Terry Branstad
Governor of Iowa
State Capitol
1007 East Grand Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50322

Dear Governor Branstad:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(c) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Iowa fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Terry Branstad
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Butch Otter
Governor of Idaho
700 West Jefferson
Second Floor
Boise, ID 83702

Dear Governor Otter:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(c) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Idaho fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Butch Otter
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Bruce Rauner
Governor of Illinois
State Capitol
207 Statehouse
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Governor Rauner:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Illinois fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Mike Pence
Governor of Indiana
State House
Room 206
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Governor Pence:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

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I would recommend that the State of Indiana fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Mike Pence
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Sam Brownback
Governor of Kansas
State Capitol
2nd Floor
Topeka, KS 66612

Dear Governor Brownback:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Kansas fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Sam Brownback
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Matt Bevin
Governor of Kentucky
700 Capital Avenue
Suite 100
Frankfort, KY 40601

Dear Governor Bevin:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Kentucky fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Matt Bevin  
Page 2  

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos  
Under Secretary  
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable John Edwards
Governor of Louisiana
P.O. Box 94004
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Dear Governor Edwards:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

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I would recommend that the State of Louisiana fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable John Edwards
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Charlie Baker
Governor of Massachusetts
State House
Room 360
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Governor Baker:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Massachusetts fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Charlie Baker
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Larry Hogan
Governor of Maryland
State House
100 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Governor Hogan:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Maryland fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
The Honorable Paul LePage
Governor of Maine
1 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Governor LePage:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Maine fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Paul LePage
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs

An Equal Opportunity Employer
The Honorable Rick Snyder
Governor of Michigan
P.O. Box 30013
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Governor Snyder:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Michigan fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Mark Dayton
Governor of Minnesota
130 State Capitol
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Governor Dayton:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Minnesota fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Mark Dayton
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
The Honorable Jeremiah ("Jay") Nixon  
Governor of Missouri  
Capitol Building  
Room 218  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Governor Nixon:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Missouri fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Jeremiah ("Jay") Nixon  
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Edward Avalos  
Under Secretary  
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Phil Bryant
Governor of Mississippi
P.O. Box 139
Jackson, MS 39205

Dear Governor Bryant:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the Unites States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Mississippi fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Phil Bryant
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Steve Bullock
Governor of Montana
P.O. Box 200801
Helena, MT 59620

Dear Governor Bullock:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Montana fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Steve Bullock
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
The Honorable Pat McCrory
Governor of North Carolina
20301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699

Dear Governor McCrory:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a nationwide disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of North Carolina fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Pat McCrory
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs

An Equal Opportunity Employer
The Honorable Jack Dalrymple
Governor of North Dakota
600 East Boulevard Avenue
Department 101
Bismark, ND  58505

Dear Governor Dalrymple:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of North Dakota fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
The Honorable Pete Ricketts  
Governor of Nebraska  
P.O. Box 94848  
Lincoln, NE  68509

Dear Governor Ricketts:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Nebraska fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
The Honorable Maggie Haasan  
Governor of New Hampshire  
25 Capitol Street  
Room 212  
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Governor Haasan:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of New Hampshire fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Maggie Haasan
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Chris Christie
Governor of New Jersey
125 West State Street
P.O. Box 001
Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Governor Christie:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

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I would recommend that the State of New Jersey fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Chris Christie
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Susana Martinez
Governor of New Mexico
State Capitol
Fourth Floor
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Dear Governor Martinez:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of New Mexico fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Susana Martinez
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
The Honorable Brian Sandoval  
Governor of Nevada  
State Capitol  
101 North Carson Street  
Carson City, NV  89701

Dear Governor Sandoval:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Nevada fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Andrew Cuomo
Governor of New York
State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of New York fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Andrew Cuomo

Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs

An Equal Opportunity Employer
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable John Kasich
Governor of Ohio
77 South High Street
30th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Governor Kasich:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Ohio fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable John Kasich  
Page 2  

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Edward Avalos  
Under Secretary  
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Mary Fallin  
Governor of Oklahoma  
2300 N. Lincoln Boulevard  
Suite 212  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Governor Fallin:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(c) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Oklahoma fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Mary Fallin  
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos  
Under Secretary  
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Kate Brown
Governor of Oregon
900 Court Street, NE
Room 254
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Governor Brown:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Oregon fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Kate Brown
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
The Honorable Tom Wolf
Governor of Pennsylvania
Main Capitol Building
Room 225
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Governor Wolf:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(c) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Pennsylvania fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Tom Wolf  
Page 2  

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos  
Under Secretary  
Marketing and Regulatory Programs  

An Equal Opportunity Employer
The Honorable Gina Raimondo  
Governor of Rhode Island  
State House  
Providence, RI 02903  

Dear Governor Raimondo:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Rhode Island fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Nikki Haley
Governor of South Carolina
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor Haley:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of South Carolina fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Edward Avalos  
Under Secretary  
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Dennis Daugaard
Governor of South Dakota
500 East Capitol Street
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Governor Daugaard:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of South Dakota fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Bill Haslam
Governor of Tennessee
State Capitol
Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Governor Haslam:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Tennessee fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Bill Haslam
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
The Honorable Greg Abbott  
Governor of Texas  
P.O. Box 12428  
Austin, TX 78701

Dear Governor Abbott:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Texas fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Greg Abbott
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Gary Herbert
Governor of Utah
State Capitol
Suite 200
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

Dear Governor Herbert:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Utah fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Gary Herbert
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
The Honorable Terry McAuliffe  
Governor of Virginia  
Patrick Henry Building  
111 East Broad Street, 3rd Floor  
Richmond, VA 23219  

Dear Governor McAuliffe:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Virginia fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
The Honorable Kenneth Mapp  
Governor of Virgin Islands  
Government House  
21-22 Kongens Gade  
St. Thomas, VI 00802  

Dear Governor Mapp:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the U.S. Territory of the Virgin Islands fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Edward Avalos  
Under Secretary  
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Peter Shumlin
Governor of Vermont
109 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05609

Dear Governor Shumlin:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Vermont fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
The Honorable Jay Inslee
Governor of Washington
P.O. Box 40002
Olympia, WA 98504

Dear Governor Inslee:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Washington fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Jay Inslee
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
The Honorable Scott Walker  
Governor of Wisconsin  
115 East State Capitol  
P.O. Box 7863  
Madison, WI 53707  

Dear Governor Walker:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Wisconsin fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Earl Tomblin
Governor of West Virginia
State Capitol Complex
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Governor Tomblin:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of West Virginia fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
AUG 01 2016

The Honorable Matthew Mead  
Governor of Wyoming  
State Capitol  
200 West 24th Street  
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Governor Mead:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Wyoming fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
The Honorable Matthew Mead
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs

An Equal Opportunity Employer
The Honorable Bill Walker
Governor of Alaska
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Governor Walker:

On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law an Act amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), 7 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq., which provides for a national bioengineered food disclosure standard. Among other things, the Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national disclosure standard for bioengineered foods, including a mandatory disclosure of foods that contain bioengineering. This new law represents the first nationwide bioengineering labeling program.

I would like to call your attention to the preemption sections in this new law, which became effective upon enactment. Sections 293(e) and 295(b) provide that no State may directly or indirectly establish or continue with any food or seed requirement relating to the labeling or disclosure of whether the food or seed is genetically engineered or was developed or produced using genetic engineering, including any requirement for claims that a food or seed is or contains an ingredient that was developed by or produced using genetic engineering. The Congress of the United States included these provisions as an integral part of bringing uniformity, consistency, and clarity to biotechnology disclosures across the nation.

I would recommend that the State of Alaska fully review the scope and effect of this new Federal law in advance of taking any action or considering any new state initiatives related to the regulation of labels for foods that are genetically engineered or that contain genetically engineered ingredients. Once the U.S. Department of Agriculture promulgates the national bioengineered food disclosure standard, the Act allows your state to adopt standards identical to the national bioengineered food disclosure standard.
Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Department looks forward to working with you as we develop a program that serves the needs of the American public.

Sincerely,

Edward Avalos  
Under Secretary  
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
Identical letters sent to the following:

**Alabama**
Office of Governor Robert Bentley
State Capitol
600 Dexter Avenue
Montgomery, AL 36130-2751

**Alaska**
Office of Governor Bill Walker
State Capitol
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

**Arizona**
Office of Governor Doug Ducey
State Capitol
1700 West Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007

**Arkansas**
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
State Capitol
Room 250
Little Rock, AR 72201

**California**
Office of Governor Edmund Brown
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Colorado**
Office of Governor John Hickenlooper
136 State Capitol
Denver, CO 80203-1792

**Connecticut**
Office of Governor Dan Malloy
210 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

**Delaware**
Office of Governor Jack Markell
Legislative Hall
Dover, DE 19901

**Nebraska**
Office of Governor Pete Ricketts
P.O. Box 94848
Lincoln, NE 68509-4848

**Nevada**
Office of Governor Brian Sandoval
Capitol Building
Carson City, NV 89701

**New Hampshire**
Office of Governor Maggie Hassan
Office of the Governor
107 North Main Street, Room 208
Concord, NH 03301

**New Jersey**
Office of Governor Chris Christie
The State House
P.O. Box 001
Trenton, NJ 08625

**New Mexico**
Office of Governor Susana Martinez
State Capitol
Fourth Floor
Santa Fe, NM 87501

**New York**
Office of Governor Andrew Cuomo
State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224

**North Carolina**
Office of Governor Pat McCrory
Office of the Governor
20301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

**North Dakota**
Office of Governor Jack Dalrymple
Dept. 101
600 E. Boulevard Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58505-0001
Florida
Office of Governor Rick Scott
PL 05 The Capitol
400 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Georgia
Office of Governor Nathan Deal
203 State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Guam
Office of Governor Eddie Calvo
Executive Chamber
P.O. Box 2950
Agana, GU 96932

Hawaii
Office of Governor David Ige
Executive Chambers
State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Idaho
Office of Governor C.L "Butch" Otter
700 West Jefferson
Second Floor
Boise, ID 83702

Illinois
Office of Governor Bruce Rauner
State Capitol
207 Statehouse
Springfield, IL 62706

Indiana
Office of Governor Mike Pence
State House
Room 206
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2797

Iowa
Office of Governor Terry Branstad
State Capitol
Des Moines, IA 50319-0001

Ohio
Office of Governor John Kasich
30th Floor
77 South High Street
Columbus, OH 43215

Oklahoma
Office of Governor Mary Fallin
Capitol Building
2300 Lincoln Blvd., Rm. 212
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Oregon
Office of Governor Kate Brown
State Capitol, Room 160
900 Court St. N.
Salem, OR 97301

Pennsylvania
Office of Governor Tom Wolf
Room 225
Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Rhode Island
Office of Governor Gina Raimondo
State House
Providence, RI 02903

South Carolina
Office of Governor Nikki R. Haley
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201

South Dakota
Office of Governor Dennis Daugaard
500 East Capitol Street
Pierre, SD 57501

Tennessee
Office of Governor Bill Haslam
Tennessee State Capitol
Nashville, TN 37243-0001
Kansas
Office of Governor Sam Brownback
Capitol
300 SW 10th Avenue, Suite 212S
Topeka, KS 66612-1590

Kentucky
Office of Governor Matt Bevin
700 Capitol Ave., Suite 100
Frankfort, KY 40601

Louisiana
Office of Governor John Bel Edwards
P. O. Box 94004
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9004

Maine
Office of Governor Paul LePage
#1 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Maryland
Office of Governor Larry Hogan
State House
100 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401

Massachusetts
Office of Governor Charlie Baker
State House
Office of the Governor, Room 360
Boston, MA 02133

Michigan
Office of Governor Rick Snyder
P.O. Box 30013
Lansing, MI 48909

Minnesota
Office of Governor Mark Dayton
130 State Capitol
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard
St. Paul, MN 55155

Texas
Office of Governor Greg Abbott
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, TX 78711

Utah
Office of Governor Gary R. Herbert
Utah State Capitol
Suite 200
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

Vermont
Office of Governor Peter Shumlin
109 State Street
Pavilion Office Building
Montpelier, VT 05609

Virgin Islands
Office of Governor Kenneth Mapp
Government House, 21-22 Kongens Gade
Charlotte Amalie
St. Thomas, VI 00802

Virginia
Office of Governor Terry McAuliffe
State Capitol
Third Floor
Richmond, VA 23219

Washington
Office of Governor Jay Inslee
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 40002
Olympia, WA 98504-0002

West Virginia
Office of Governor Earl Ray Tomblin
1900 Kanawha Street
Charleston, WV 25305

Wisconsin
Office of Governor Scott Walker
115 East State Capitol
Madison, WI 53707