

SENATE COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

INQUIRY INTO THE FOOD STANDARDS AMENDMENT (TRUTH IN LABELLING-GENETICALLY MODIFIED MATERIAL) BILL 2010

As a citizen of Australia, I fully support legislation that would make Genetically Modified Material labeled. Transparent labeling on this issue would necessarily inform consumers of the contents of food stuffs, for instance. The means by which this is followed should be within strict guidelines that deliver safety to all Australians who value non-modified materials in the economic market and question the long-term costs that may affect the environment. As a young person, I am challenged by the lack of public information and awareness raising initiatives that could assist consumer choice in Australia with regards to Genetically Modified Materials. It is my understanding, that the multi-national companies that are responsible for producing Genetically Modified Materials have a very poor record when it comes to public safety including farmers in developing and developed countries who have been undermined because of crop contamination, financial debt, high stress and suicide.

As a concerned member of Australia's future food sovereignty, I welcome the 2010 Bill labeling of Genetically Modified Material.

Jonathan Cassell