



## Lying Through Their Teeth

In yet another blatant show of support for Monsanto, members of the U.S. House Committee on Agriculture signed off on a bill intended to permanently shut down the GMO labeling movement. The Committee took only 17 minutes to push H.R. 1599 toward a full House vote, expected to take place early next week. Members justified their votes on the basis of lies. Official statements issued by Committee Chairman Rep. K. Michael Conaway (R-TX) and Rep. Collin Peterson (D-MN) were disingenuously crafted to make consumers think the purpose of this bill, the “Mother of All Monsanto Protection Acts,” is to give consumers what they want—labels on foods containing GMOs.

From Peterson’s statement: “Consumers increasingly want to know more about where their food comes from and how it is produced. I think H.R. 1599 satisfies that demand while also recognizing what we know about the safety of the foods that our farmers produce.”

H.R. 1599 doesn’t come close to satisfying consumer demand for labeling. It creates the framework for a government-run voluntary labeling scheme, while shutting down states’ rights to require mandatory labeling. Who in their right mind believes that corporations that spent hundreds of millions of dollars to keep labels off their GMO foods are suddenly going to voluntarily label them after this bill passes? Conaway’s and Peterson’s statements perpetuated the lie that GMOs have been thoroughly tested and proven safe. And the issue of Monsanto’s glyphosate, the toxic chemical used on more than 80 percent of GMO foods, being officially classified as probably cancerous to humans? Barely mentioned. [orgcns.org/1LnUJf3](http://orgcns.org/1LnUJf3)

## Desperate Measure

A recent article by the arguably conservative *Fortune* magazine painted a bleak picture for the processed junk food industry. *Fortune* reported that the top 25 U.S. food and beverage companies have lost an equivalent of \$18 billion since 2009. According to a survey paid for by the financial magazine, 64.2 percent of consumers are “very” or “extremely” concerned about pesticides on their food; 56.5% said the same thing about hormones, 52.2 percent about antibiotics and 45.9% about GMOs.

No wonder food companies are desperate to keep GMO labels off of their products, and avoid conversations around the fact that GMO foods are grown using massive quantities of cancer-causing pesticides.

Lucky for them, these companies belong to the Grocery Manufacturers Association, one of the most powerful lobbying groups in DC. The GMA is behind the obscene spending to defeat GMO labeling ballot initiatives. It’s behind the lawsuit to overturn Vermont’s GMO labeling law. And it’s behind this week’s swift green-lighting of H.R. 1599, a bill to ensure that GMOs are never labeled, and never ever subjected to pre-market safety testing.

Desperate times call for desperate measures. Which is why a host of DC lawmakers, who depend on Big Ag for campaign contributions, are willing to throw consumers and democracy under the bus, in order to pass what we’ve alternately referred to as the DARK (Deny Americans the Right to Know) Act and the “Mother of All Monsanto Protection Acts.” H.R. 1599 will be voted on by the House, probably next week. We must let every single member of Congress know that this bill subverts the truth about GMOs and the pesticides used to grow them, as well as the rights of states to protect their citizens as granted under the Tenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. Take Action: [orgcns.org/1ADABMN](http://orgcns.org/1ADABMN)

## Formaldehyde in GMO Soy?

When the FDA wrongfully declared GMOs “substantially equivalent” to non-GMO foods, the agency set the table for decades of corruption. Corruption of our food supply. Corruption of our health. Corruption of our



Democracy. Now, along comes a new study, published in the peer-reviewed *Agricultural Sciences*, that says GMO crops, or at least GMO soy crops, are absolutely not substantially equivalent to non-GMO soy crops.

From a press release: “The study, led by Dr. V.A. Shiva Ayyadurai, Ph.D., an MIT-trained systems biologist, utilizes his latest invention, CytoSolve, a 21st century systems biology method to integrate 6,497 in vitro and in vivo laboratory experiments,

from 184 scientific institutions, across 23 countries, to discover the accumulation of formaldehyde, a known carcinogen, and a dramatic depletion of glutathione, an anti-oxidant necessary for cellular detoxification, in GMO soy, indicating that formaldehyde and glutathione are likely critical criteria for distinguishing the GMO from its non-GMO counterpart.”

More than 90% of all U.S. soy crops are GMO. Soy is commonly found in a long list of foods. The biotech industry was founded on bad science and great public relations. For the most thorough history of how Monsanto has corrupted our food and our government, read Steven Druker’s, “Altered Genes, Twisted Truth: How the Venture to Genetically Engineer Our Food Has Subverted Science, Corrupted Government and Systematically Deceived the Public”. [orgcns.org/1LxLXvg](http://orgcns.org/1LxLXvg)

## It’s (Way Past) Time

It’s been six years since Congress last raised the federal minimum wage requirement—to a whopping \$7.25/hr. Meanwhile, the cost of living, including food and housing, has steadily increased.

The Raise the Wage Act gives Congress a chance to help 35 million low-wage workers get a much-needed raise. This legislation will even gradually raise the wage for 10 million tipped workers, who have been stuck with a \$2.13/hour minimum wage for 22 years!

Who are the minimum wage earners? From the *Guardian*: “According to former secretary of labor Robert B Reich: “Most low-wage workers aren’t young teenagers; they’re major breadwinners for their families, and many are women. And they and their families need a higher minimum.” Yet business owners and conservative pundits have done an excellent job misinforming the public on who works minimum wage jobs.”

It’s way past time we pay these people a living wage.

Take Action: [orgcns.org/1JARone](http://orgcns.org/1JARone)

## It’s So Simple

Who will fix the global warming problem? Not who you think. While governments pin their hopes on complex carbon tax schemes, and while technophiles scramble for a high-tech solution, farmers all over the world are actually cooling the planet. And feeding the world. “We’ve been made to believe that without fossil fuels, without external inputs, without big mechanization, without long-distance trade, we cannot feed the world. Every one of those assumptions is false.” -Vandana Shiva

The only thing Big Food is feeding us is a line. The climate crisis is real. And urgent. We have the solutions. We need to spread the word.

[youtu.be/GjD8URaGe88](http://youtu.be/GjD8URaGe88)