



Village Independent Democrats
26 Perry Street
New York, New York 10014

Honorable Barack Obama
President
United States of America
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama,

Village Independent Democrats, one of the oldest reform Democratic clubs in New York City, urges you to veto the inadequate bill on GMO labeling recently passed by Congress.

While we welcome the establishment of the first mandatory federal labeling requirement to help consumers know whether their food contains genetically modified ingredients, the mandate will not be as effective as it could and should be. In fact, the bill will nullify a stronger measure just recently implemented by Vermont that ensures that labels are comprehensive and written in easy-to-understand English.

Despite great advances in medical science, Americans are suffering from an increase in allergic disorders, diabetes, and autoimmune diseases. These are likely to be a result of environmental factors, including nutrition. We are only just beginning to understand the connections between the food we eat -- and hygienic and environmental practices in general -- and good health.

This is not a time for half measures. We should be working to ensure that the public has the best possible information and education to make the best possible nutritional choices. Unfortunately, this bill is a shoddy compromise that is not in our best national interests.

Please, Mr. President, do not accept anything less than a bill that requires full disclosure of the ingredients in our food.

Respectfully yours,

Nadine Hoffmann
President