



February 24, 2016

The Honorable Pat Roberts  
U.S. Senate Committee on  
Agriculture, Nutrition, & Forestry  
328A Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow  
U.S. Senate Committee on  
Agriculture, Nutrition, & Forestry  
328A Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

RE: GMO Labeling Legislation

Dear Chairman Roberts and Ranking Member Stabenow:

The National Black Farmers Association (NBFA), a non-profit organization representing African American farmers and their families with tens of thousands of members nationwide, urge you to support mandatory GMO labeling.

Consumers have a right to know how their food is grown.

As farmers, we know people have a growing interest in the production of their food. In fact, nine out of 10 consumers want genetically engineered foods (commonly called "GMOs") to be labeled.

We strongly support national mandatory labeling of GMOs. In the absence of such commonsense legislation, we support the well-established authority of states to require disclosures on food packages.

We oppose voluntary GMO labeling legislation under consideration in the Senate because it would:

- Preempt states from requiring labeling of GMO foods.
- Codify the current, broken voluntary labeling system.

While NBFA does not object to farmers growing GMO crops, per se, we are aware of the increased use of toxic weed killers associated with herbicide-tolerant GMO crops.

We therefore urge you to oppose any legislation that replaces mandatory GMO labeling laws with voluntary labeling.

Sincerely,

John W. Boyd Jr.  
President  
National Black Farmers Association

CC: Members of the Senate Agriculture Committee