

<p style="text-align: center;">Natural Products Association West Supports these Bills in the Senate</p>		
Bill	Summary	Latest Action
<p><u>SB 1121</u> Migden</p>	<p>Food Labeling: Cloned Animals SB 1121 is an effort to protect consumer choice and would require all meat and dairy products from cloned animals and their offspring to be clearly labeled. The measure responds to the recent announcement by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) that milk and meat from cloned animals are safe for sale to the public. Twelve states, including California, have now proposed cloned food labeling.</p>	<p>04/07/2008 : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-referred to SENATE Committee on APPROPRIATIONS [As of 5/15/08]</p>
<p>SUPPORT</p>	<p>We believe in the consumer's freedom of choice, <i>informed choice</i>. Labeling preserves choice and sustains confidence in the food system. Labeling will also help prevent contamination of the organic food system (a rapidly growing segment of the food/farming industry). Consumers expect government protection of their food supply, from conception to consumption.</p>	
<p><u>AB 541</u> Huffman Coto Beall Berg DeSaulnier Krekorian Lieber Senator Migden</p>	<p>Liability: Genetically Engineered Plants Establishes California's only state law related to genetic engineering (GE) in agriculture. It protects California farmers from frivolous lawsuits and harassing investigations commonly used by some biotechnology corporations. AB 541 represents a compromise solution to the controversial GE issue. Assemblymember Huffman introduced a much more comprehensive bill in 2007 that was held over in the Assembly Agriculture Committee. Since then, stakeholders have been working very hard to arrive at a compromise on the bill. AB 541 as currently amended represents the fruit of those negotiations. It was supported in the January 2008 Assembly Agriculture Committee hearing by the bill's sponsors as well as the California Farm Bureau Federation, the California Seed Association, and the Western Plant Health Association.</p>	<p>02/14/2008: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Referred to SENATE Committees on AGRICULTURE & JUDICIARY [As of 5/15/08]</p>
<p>SUPPORT</p>	<p>It is time to protect consumers and farmers from the encroachment of genetically engineered crops and seeds. Consumer demand for organically grown food is on the upswing and California should take a leadership role to promote and protect this critical food supply.</p>	
<p><u>AB 97</u> Mendoza Senator Alquist</p>	<p>Food Facilities: Trans Fat Would phase out the use of trans fat in California Restaurants beginning January 1, 2010 and from baked goods on January, 1 2011. AB 97 imposes a fine that may range from \$25-\$1,000 for violations of these provisions. Asks restaurants to switch to oils, margarines, and shortenings that have less than .5 grams trans fat per serving. Trans fats can be replaced with readily available heart healthy oils without changing the taste of foods.</p>	<p>05/12/2008 : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In SENATE. Read second time. To third reading. [As of 5/15/08]</p>
<p>SUPPORT</p>	<p>There is a direct, proven relationship between diets high in trans fat content and LDL "bad" cholesterol levels and an increased risk of coronary heart disease—a leading cause of death in the United States. Trans fats are invisible and dangerous. There is no safe level of trans fats in our diet. Leading health organizations—including the American Heart Association, the National Academy of Sciences, the Institute of Medicine, the World Health Organization and the US Department of Health and Human Services—recommend that people strictly limit or eliminate consumption of trans fats. Healthy alternatives already exist and are being used. Eliminating trans fats from our foods will not only save lives but reduce mounting health care costs affecting all Californians.</p>	

	Natural Products Association West Supports SB 441 in the Assembly	
SB 441 Torlakson Kuehl	State Property: Vending Machines Requires that 35% of all food and 1/3 of all drinks sold in vending machines in buildings owned or leased by the state shall be nutritious, as defined. It further requires that nutritional information of the food and drinks be posted on the outside of such machines. These requirements may be phased-in by January 1, 2010.	04/28/2008: ● Re-referred to ASSEMBLY Committee on BUSINESS & PROFESSIONS [As of 5/15/08]
SUPPORT	State vending machines largely provide only non-nutritious snacks, allowing for few alternatives to food and beverages that are high in sugar, fat and saturated fat. Employees and visitors to state buildings, highway rest stops, and state colleges often have few healthy choices when choosing from vending machines. Requiring more nutritious food in vending machines will complement growing state and federal efforts to promote improved nutrition and fitness. That state can set a strong example and provide incentives to vendors for nutritious fast food in state buildings. Supporters include: California Council of the Blind, Randolph-Sheppard Vendors of California, American Diabetes Association, American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, California Dental Association, AFSCME, California Center for Public Health Advocacy and Kaiser Permanente.	

Natural Products Association West

Also Supports

Senate Bills

SB 1313	Corbett	Safe Food Packaging
SB 1420	Padilla	Nutritional Labeling on Menus & Menu Boards
SB 1713	Migden	Toxic Free Toddlers & Babies Act

Assembly Bills

AB 2168	Jones	Selling Processed Agriculture Products
AB 2474	Galgiani	Childhood Obesity Prevention Accountability
AB 2704	Leno	Free Tap Water Access for Kids at School

LEGISLATION TO PROTECT COMMUNITIES FROM AERIAL PESTICIDE SPRAYING

INFORMATION AND INFORMED CONSENT

BACKGROUND

Aerial spraying of pesticides aimed at eradicating the Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM) in California started in fall 2007. The \$75 million campaign is being conducted by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA). The pesticides are untested and have never before been applied on such a large scale and over human populations. Long-term environmental and health impacts have not been studied. Under an emergency exemption, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is being conducted after the spraying has already taken place on the Monterey Bay peninsula. Hundreds of illness reports have been collected by physicians, citizens and environmental groups, because no adequate health monitoring system was in place.

CDFA plans to resume spraying on June 1st and to expand into the larger SF Bay Area with monthly applications until at least 2010. The following bills address many of the loopholes that facilitated the CDFA's aerial spray program for LBAM.

AB 2763 (Laird) Invasive Species Planning

Requires the Department of Food and Agriculture to create a list of invasive species for which an eradication program might be appropriate, and hold public hearings on this information. It also calls for independent scientific review and full disclosure of pesticide ingredients.

AB 2765 (Huffman) Notifications & Disclosures

Sets new limits on the emergency powers of the Department of Agriculture. The bill requires a public hearing to receive testimony, full disclosure of pesticide ingredients and examination of alternatives to aerial spraying.

ACR 117 (Laird) Health & Efficacy Issues

Resolution calling on the State to address unresolved health, scientific, and efficacy issues of the LBAM eradication program.

SCR 87 (Migden) Moratorium on Spraying

Resolution calling on moratorium for further pesticide spraying until it is proven both safe and effective.

SUMMARY

Californians have the right to informed consent regarding pesticides sprayed in their communities, as called for by nearly 27,000 petition signatures on StopTheSpray.ORG. The bills introduced by Assemblymembers Laird, Leno, and Huffman strengthen the public's right to be informed, and restrict the powers of un-elected officials.

Citizens are urging Laird, Leno, and Huffman to include amendments that recognize consent. People have a right to decide what happens to their own bodies.

SUPPORTERS

Breast Cancer Action
California Church IMPACT
California Nurses Association
Citizens For Health
Coalition for Clean Air
Learning Disabilities Association of California

Natural Products Association West

Pesticide Watch

Planning and Conservation League
StopTheSpray.ORG

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