

NATIONAL HEALTH FREEDOM ACTION

December 18, 2012

NHFA and NHFC Thank Californians for Voting YES on Prop 37 Demanding Labeling of GMOs!

And Now Lets Support the State of Washington!

California Proposition 37 was narrowly defeated (48.5% to 51.5%). And now the State of Washington is going forward. California's close race marks a game changer tipping the scales in favor of GMO labeling across the country in ongoing state and national efforts to mandate the labeling of all food products containing genetically modified organisms (GMOs). The State of Washington is now collecting signatures for labeling of GMOs and are well on the way to getting the signatures they need to launch I-522, The People's Right To Know Genetically Engineered Food Act of Washington **Read More**

CA Election Results: On November 6, 2012, six million California Americans personally asked to have GMO's labeled! And although the initiative was defeated narrowly, and important and serious voting integrity issues are being raised, the voice of the people has been heard and we will continue to demand labeling. Last year 17 states introduced legislative bills mandating GMO Labeling and it is our job now to get those bills passed according to the wishes of the people. Thank you California! California State law requires county elections officials to report their final results of the November 6th election to the Secretary of State by December 7 and then the Secretary of State had until December 14 to certify the results of the election. **Click Here** to see CA Election Results. *http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/sov/2012-general/15-ballot-measures.pdf*

Why we're not defeated: Despite the results of the CA Initiative, GMO labeling advocates are calling the California campaign a victory given that it was outspent 5 to 1 and still managed to get over 6 million votes.

Evidence of Progress: As the National Health Federation (NHF) aptly stated in a recent alert, "California's Prop 37 campaign was the latest (and greatest) expression of the rising anti-GMO tide in the US that has swelled over the last 2-3 years. Other expressions have included the popularity of the Non-GMO label in grocery stores, the huge number of activists working on GMO issues, the unprecedented GMO coverage in the media, and the 19 state legislatures that considered GMO labeling bills. These are all early signs of a coming tipping point of consumer rejection."

Early Wins:

- Let's celebrate with San Juan County, Washington, for passing its GMO-Free County initiative. Growing GMOs in the San Juan Islands will shortly be illegal.
- Lets celebrate with Cincinnati shoppers: Cincinnati Resolution The city of Cincinnati became the first in Ohio to pass a resolution to require the labeling of <u>genetically</u> <u>engineered</u> (GE) foods, citing that consumers should have the right to know what is in their food. The consumer advocacy organization Food & Water Watch brought the resolution to city council as a part of their "Let Me Decide" campaign to make GE labeling the law. 201201492 Res. No. 0052-2012 RESOLUTION, dated 10/12/2012, submitted by Councilmember Wendell Young and Vice-Mayor Roxanne Qualls, expressing the support of Council for the mandatory labeling of genetically engineered products so consumers are informed that the potential long-term risks of genetically engineered products to public health and the environment are largely unknown. Click Here to Read More About Cincinnati Resolution *http://ecowatch.org/2012/cincinnati-ge-food-labeling/*

States moving ahead for Labeling: A Washington state ballot initiative that seeks to require GMO labeling is working toward its goal of 320,000 signatures. The initiative, I-522, titled "**The People's Right To Know Genetically Engineered Food Act'** would require labeling of food products (including dietary supplements) that contain GMO ingredients. **Click Here** for Campaign Details and Read the Washington I-522 Initiative. *http://www.labelitwa.org/*

Watch for updated GMO labeling bills in these states this coming session and support their efforts: Connecticut, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, and West Virginia. If your state is not listed, watch your state closely for new labeling bills and support their efforts.

Special Profound Thank yous to:

Pamm Larry: Former farmer and midwife from Chico, CA, who is credited with launching the grass-roots effort to label GMOs in California in January 2011. She helped lead nearly 10,000 volunteers across the state.

Jeffrey Smith: Listen to Non-GMO activist, Institute for Responsible Technology's Founder, Jeffrey Smith's reaction about Prop 37 voting results with Gaiam TV News. Click Here to listen to video. <u>http://responsibletechnology.org/</u>

