

## Talking Points for GMO Labeling Letter to the Editor

- Keep it short – around 250 words
- State why GMO labeling matters to you and to all New Yorkers/Americans
  - We have the right to know what's in the food we eat
  - Studies are inconclusive about health implications of GMO consumption
  - GMO crops are approved based on studies conducted by the biotech industry, not independently reviewed data
  - GMO crops are designed to withstand application of toxic pesticides and herbicides, like glyphosate, which the World Health Organization classified as a probable carcinogen. Glyphosate residues have been found in food products and samples of human urine.
- The case for labeling
  - Polls consistently show that over 90% of Americans support GMO labeling
  - 64 countries around the world label GMOs
  - Campbell Soup, ConAgra, Kellogg's, General Mills, Mars, Dannon, PepsiCo, WM Wrigley Jr. Co., and Tootsie Roll Industries are starting to label their genetically engineered products, ***at no extra charge to consumers.***
- Make clear ask
  - The majority of NY Assemblymembers and Senators support the GMO labeling bill (A.617/S.485), which would label all genetically engineered foods in New York State. Fifty percent of the Assembly and nearly half of the Senate have co-sponsored the bill.
  - **Given this overwhelming support, I am writing to urge my Assemblymember (insert your local representative's name here) and Senator (insert your local representative's name) to ask the leaders of the New York Legislature to put the bill up for a vote.**
  - Vermont will be the first state to label GMOs starting in July.  
Let's make it happen here in New York!