

House Bill 698

By: Representative Franklin of the 43rd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 elementary and secondary education, so as to prohibit the use of genetically modified foods
3 or processed foods made therefrom in public school breakfast and lunch programs; to
4 encourage the use of locally grown foods in such programs to the greatest extent practicable
5 and consistent with nutritional requirements; to define a term; to repeal conflicting laws; and
6 for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elementary and
10 secondary education, is amended by revising the introductory paragraph and paragraph (1)
11 of subsection (b) of Code Section 20-2-66, relating to school breakfast programs, as follows:

12 "(b) The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules and regulations which:

13 (1) Establish minimum nutritional requirements for school breakfast programs which
14 meet or exceed the minimum federal regulations; provided, however, that the use of
15 genetically modified foods or processed foods made therefrom in such breakfast
16 programs shall be prohibited. The use of locally grown fresh foods from individual
17 farmers or farmers' markets, such as fruits and vegetables similar to those made available
18 through state farmers' market nutrition programs, shall be encouraged to the greatest
19 extent practicable and consistent with nutritional requirements. As used in this
20 paragraph, the term 'genetically modified food' means a food that has been genetically
21 altered through the insertion of deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) from one plant or animal
22 species into the DNA of another species, as opposed to conventional genetic modification
23 that is carried out through conventional breeding;"

24 **SECTION 2.**

25 Said chapter is further amended in Code Section 20-2-187, relating to a state-wide school
26 lunch program, by adding a new subsection to read as follows:

27 "(a.1) The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules and regulations which establish
28 minimum nutritional requirements for the state-wide school lunch program; provided,
29 however, that the use of genetically modified foods or processed foods made therefrom in
30 such lunch program shall be prohibited. The use of locally grown fresh foods from
31 individual farmers or farmers' markets, such as fruits and vegetables similar to those made
32 available through state farmers' market nutrition programs, shall be encouraged to the
33 greatest extent practicable and consistent with nutritional requirements. As used in this
34 subsection, the term 'genetically modified food' means a food that has been genetically
35 altered through the insertion of deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) from one plant or animal
36 species into the DNA of another species, as opposed to conventional genetic modification
37 that is carried out through conventional breeding."

38 **SECTION 3.**

39 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.