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To whom it concerns,

Polling shows most Australians, and global citizens don't want to eat genetically modified (GM) foods. All GM foods should be independently assessed for their health and environmental hazards and risks, be labelled as GM, and be traceable. This will allow farmers, food producers, retailers, and shoppers to avoid them, for many important reasons.

Changes to the Food Code to allow a wide range of GM foods undermines our basic right to know what we are eating. That they are to be sold without safety assessment or labelling only means that Australians voices are being ignored. Australians have made it clear that the majority do not want genetically modified foods. Most people on a natural diet use Stevia instead of sugar to improve their health. Nobody who wants to improve their health would eat genetically modified foods including meat and milk from some genetically modified animals.

I would also like to point out that it would lead to major eating disorders in people who try to avoid these GM abominations.

I ask why FSANZ is willing to avoid their key responsibilities to ensure our food safety and right to know what is in our food. Why do we even need FSANZ if they are not willing to listen?

FSANZ has relied on advice from scientists with serious conflicts of interest, to conclude these new GM foods pose no greater risks than existing foods. Those seeking to commercialise GM plants, animals and microbes should play no role in deciding how - or even whether - foods derived from them should be regulated.

I support expanding the definition for 'gene technology' so FSANZ continues to assess and regulate all techniques and methods of genetic modification, other than conventional breeding.

The proposal to deregulate new and emerging GM techniques and their food products, which pose new and unassessed risks, is completely unacceptable.

Please consider the consequences of this proposal carefully because gene changes cannot be undone and we have enough illness and disease in the world right now.

Yours sincerely,

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