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Issue Genetically Modified Foods entered our food stores in early 2000. There have been no long-term studies on the safety of GMO food. There is no way to differentiate a GMO food from a nonGMO food. Most developed countries require the labeling of all GMO foods including animal feed. My class identified the need to label GMO food. We believe that people have the right to know what they are consuming.

Project Description We conducted a series of face-to-face interviews with key opinion leaders in our community. Our class invited members of the Senate, House of Representatives, State Director of Health and Human Services, Scientists from URI, DEM, and the Head of Rhode Island Farm Bureau. Our class represented a united and informed front on our conviction on the issue of GMO food labeling. Our class conducted a mock Senate hearing on our issue of GMO food labeling at the Rhode Island State House.

Project Outcome We were selected to represent the state of Rhode Island in the national showcase and received a rating of superior. We gained momentum in the state legislature by shedding light on the issue of food safety and consumer knowledge in proper labeling. We were able to obtain support from the community for the labeling of GMO foods.

Request I would like to work with my senators and representatives to be paired with potential pending legislation from other members that could complement food safety with the labeling of GMO foods. I would gain valuable information and support by working with committees that had previous success with food safety and food labeling.

Project Link <http://cranstononline.com/stories/ES-Rhodes-students-target-GMOs-during-Project-Citizen,93327>