



RESOLUTION 2011 - 03

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING U.S. FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION (FDA) TO APPROVAL FOR GENETICALLY ENGINEERED (GE) SALMON, AND REQUIRED LABELING OF ANY GENETICALLY ENGINEERED SEAFOOD SOLD TO U.S. CONSUMERS

WHEREAS, AquaBounty Technologies, Inc. has submitted an application to the FDA for approval of the “AquAdvantage Salmon,” a genetically engineered Atlantic salmon for human consumption and marketing in the United States; and

WHEREAS, this is the first genetically engineered animal intended to be used as food in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the “AquAdvantage Salmon” was developed by cross-breeding a Pacific Chinook salmon growth hormone gene and an Ocean Pout antifreeze protein gene into fertilized eggs of wild Atlantic salmon. The fish that develop from these eggs have an enhanced growth rate compared to non-transgenic Atlantic salmon; and

WHEREAS, AquaBounty proposes fertilization and incubation to the eyed-egg stage on Prince Edward Island, Canada; shipment of the eyed-eggs to Panama; grow-out and processing of fish in Panama; and shipment of processed fish to the United State for retail sale. AquaBounty maintains the land-based rearing of the “AquAdvantage Salmon” will be safely contained with a minimum risk of escapement into the wild; and, in the event there is an escape, believes the geographical area of the salmon rearing is unfavorable to the survival of “AquAdvantage Salmon.” Alaskans are well aware that fish farming containment measures are not fail-safe. In addition, AquaBounty does not address the possibility of eyed-eggs making their way into the streams that run into the Northern Atlantic Ocean; and

WHEREAS, the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference urges the federal government to honor the Food and Drug Administration Amendments Act of 2007 provision (PL 110-85), requiring the FDA Commissioner to “consult with the Assistant Administrator of the National Marine Fisheries Service of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to produce a report on any environmental risks associated with genetically engineered seafood products, including the impact on wild fish stocks”; and

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WHEREAS, the development of “AquAdvantage Salmon” has been ongoing for approximately 15 years, yet the product has not been the subject of thorough scientific research and testing to ensure its consumption is safe in the long term; and

WHEREAS, many salmon consumers purchase the product for its widely recognized health benefits, and this lack of safe consumption testing could weaken consumer confidence in all salmon products and place downward pressure on salmon markets; and

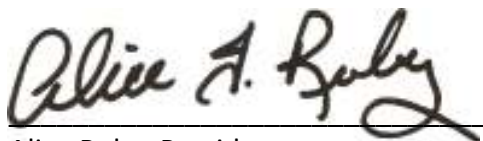
WHEREAS, Alaska’s wild seafood industry, which is extremely important to the regional and state economy, could be severely impacted by the sale of genetically engineered salmon if proper labeling is not required. Should the FDA approve AquaBounty’s application to market their product in the United States, it is critical that the product be mandated to be clearly labeled “Genetically Modified,” to allow consumers to make an informed choice. Alaska statutes require such labels be prominently displayed on the front of the package.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference does not support approval of genetically engineered salmon for sale in the United States.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference believes that if, despite strong environmental and human health concerns, the “Frankenfish” application is approved by the FDA, product labeling requirements should include the words “Genetically Modified” prominently displayed in a minimum font size and a contrasting color on the front of the package.

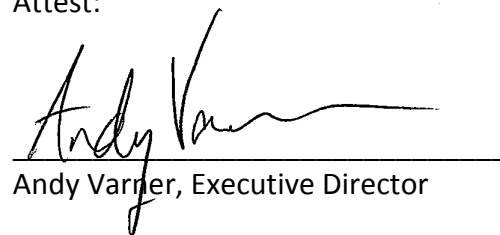
PASSED AND APPROVED by the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference on this 11th day of February, 2011.

Signed:



Alice Ruby, President

Attest:



Andy Varrner, Executive Director