

# National Bioengineered Food Disclosure Standard

## ISSUE:

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Sonny Perdue, has announced the National Bioengineered Food Disclosure Standard. In 2016, Congress directed the USDA to establish this national mandatory standard for disclosing foods that are or may be bioengineered. The Standard requires food manufacturers, importers and certain retailers to ensure bioengineered foods are appropriately disclosed.

The Standard prevents a patchwork of state-by-state regulations that would have confused consumers and been more expensive for entities to comply. It increases the transparency of our nation's food supply, ensuring clear information and label consistency.

## IMPACT:

The Standard defines bioengineered foods as those that contain detectable genetic material that has been modified through lab techniques and cannot be created through conventional breeding or found in nature. The implementation date of the Standard is January 1, 2020, except for small food manufacturers, whose implementation date is January 1, 2021. The mandatory compliance date is January 1, 2022.

## ACTION:

Regulated entities have several disclosure options:

- Text, e.g. "Bioengineered Food", or "Contains a Bioengineered Food Ingredient"
- USDA-approved symbol
- Electronic or digital link to more information
- Text message, e.g. "Text command word or number" for more information
- Phone number or web address is available for small food manufacturers and very small packages



**Jaime Jerrels**

jaime.jerrels@ffbf.org



Bioengineered  
Label



Derived From  
Label

## FFBF POLICY:

“ We encourage all state and federal agencies and industry efforts to establish public confidence that the American food supply is wholesome and safe. ”

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Florida Farm Bureau (FFB) is the state's largest general agriculture membership organization, with 147,000 member-families. Florida Farm Bureau's Agricultural Policy Department facilitates the policy development process initiated by its active membership and ratified annually by the organization's voting delegates. FFB National Affairs works to advance policies through Florida's congressional delegation and federal regulatory agencies.

