HAINES BOROUGH RESOLUTION No. 10-11-247

Adopted

A Resolution of the Haines Borough Assembly, opposing an application from Aquabounty Technologies, Inc. to the U.S Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to approve and market genetically engineered Atlantic Salmon in the United States.

WHEREAS, AquaBounty Technologies, Inc. has submitted an application to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for approval of the "AquAdvantage Salmon," a genetically engineered Atlantic salmon for human consumption 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 bred by inserting a recombinant DNA construct (also called a transgene) comprised of a Pacific Chinook salmon growth hormone gene and an Ocean Pout antifreeze protein gene into fertilized eggs of wild Atlantic salmon; and

WHEREAS, the breeding of six subsequent generations led to an "AquAdvantage Atlantic Salmon" line which bears a single copy of the integrated transgene; and

WHEREAS, the brood stock used in spawning of "AquAdvantage Salmon" are females containing two copies of the transgene that have been scientifically sex-reversed for breeding purposes, therefore labeled neomales, which are then crossed with female Atlantic salmon that do not possess the transgene to produce eggs containing a single copy of the transgene; and

WHEREAS, 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 States for retail sale; and

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, this lack of safe consumption testing could weaken consumer confidence in all salmon products; and

WHEREAS, Alaska's wild seafood industry, which is extremely important to the economy of the Haines Borough, could be severely impacted by the introduction of genetically engineered salmon,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Haines Borough opposes approval of genetically engineered salmon for release in the wild and for human consumption in the United States based on strong economic, environmental, and human health concerns.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Haines Borough calls upon the FDA to not approve the application from AquaBounty Technologies, Inc. to market and sell genetically engineered Atlantic salmon for human consumption in the United States.

Adopted by a duly-constituted quorum of the Haines Borough Assembly on this 30th day of November, 2010.

Janice Hill, Borough Mayor

Attest:

Julie Cozzi, Borough Clerk

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OCTOBER 17

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