CITY OF MARGATE, FLORIDA

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MARGATE, FLORIDA SUPPORTING MANDATORY LABELING OF ALL GENETICALLY MODIFIED PRODUCTS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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WHEREAS, the City recognizes that consumers desire accurate and thorough information about the food they feed their families; and

WHEREAS, the potential long-term risk to public health and the environment from genetically modified foods is unknown; and

WHEREAS, safety studies on genetically modified foods have been limited due to the prohibition of cultivation for research purposes clauses contained in the seed licensing agreements of biotechnology companies; and

WHEREAS, some independent peer-reviewed research done on genetically modified crops has revealed problems with liver and kidney functions in rats, deformities and neurological problems in vertebrates, and lower nutrition content in Roundup Ready crops (genetically engineered crops that have had their DNA altered to allow them to withstand the Roundup herbicide glyphosate); and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the United States Department of Agriculture to ensure that genetically modified crops are safe to grow, the Environmental Protection Agency to ensure that genetically modified products will not harm the environment and the Food and Drug Administration to ensure that genetically modified food is safe to eat; and

WHEREAS, the patchwork of federal agencies that regulates genetically modified crops and animals in the United States has failed to adequately oversee and monitor genetically modified products; and

WHEREAS, farmers who produce organic or non-genetically modified crops run the risk of crop contamination from nearby genetically modified crops; and

WHEREAS, farmers who unintentionally grow genetically modified-patented seeds or who harvest crops that are contaminated with genetically modified traits could lose marketing options and face costly lawsuits; and

WHEREAS, a 2013 *CBS/New York Times* national poll found that ninety-three (93%) percent of U.S. consumers polled saying such genetically modified or engineered ingredients should be labeled; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Commission deems it to be in the best interest of the citizens and residents to support the mandatory labeling of all genetically modified products.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF MARGATE, FLORIDA:

Section 1. That the City Commission of the City of Margate, Florida, The Mayor and City Commission hereby strongly support the mandatory labeling of all genetically modified products.

Section 2. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2015.

ATTEST:

_____ _____

JOSEPH J. KAVANAGH MAYOR JOANNE SIMONE
CITY CLERK

RECORD OF VOTE

Peerman _____
Talerico _____
Bryan _____
Ruzzano _____
Simone _____