Grocery Manufacturer's Association seeks 'natural' label for GMOs

The trade organization representing the nation's largest food and beverage companies wants permission to label as "natural" products that contain genetically engineered ingredients like corn, soy, canola and sugar, according to a letter sent to the Food and Drug Administration.

The Grocery Manufacturers Association (GMA) says it plans to petition the agency to issue a regulation that would allow foods containing genetically modified ingredients to be labeled "natural."

The association's request was sent just weeks before the end of the year, when the FDA is expected to establish voluntary guidelines for the labeling of foods containing biotech-related ingredients, based on the priorities it has identified for itself.

Currently, legislatures in 26 states are pondering whether foods that contain genetically engineered ingredients should be labeled. "Consumers and the food industry would all benefit from uniform legal requirements and the consistent outcomes that result from federal regulations, rather than state-by-state dictates through court decisions or state or local legislation," the GMA says in its letter.

Read the full, original story: Group Seeks Special Label for Food: 'Natural'