

Proposed New York bill misguided attack on GMOs, vaccines

In a bizarre juxtaposition of irrational fears, a New York State legislator has introduced a bill to ban GMOs in vaccines. The bill, NY AB 1706, is apparently not a hoax but was introduced by assembly member Thomas J. Abinanti, who has passed other bills designed to place restrictions on so-called genetically modified organisms.

In the unlikely event this bill passed, it would set back vaccine technology a half century and would do away completely with some important vaccines. Abinanti has proposed several other bills that would require disclosure of information about GMOs in vaccines.

Paul Offit, who is chief of the division of infectious diseases at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, said that genetic modification is at the heart of vaccine technology. Vaccines against viral diseases use a version of the virus that's been killed or altered – “attenuated” in the medical language. The modification is what prevents the vaccines from making people sick.

The bill defines a GMO as an organism that has been “altered at the molecular or cellular level by means that are not possible under natural conditions or processes, including recombinant DNA and RNA techniques, cell fusion, microencapsulation, macroencapsulation, gene deletion and doubling, introduction of a foreign gene and a process that changes the positions of genes...”. This means that if the bill passes, scientists would no longer be able to alter viruses in order to make them safe.

Read full, original article: [Defying Science And Common Sense, New York Bill Would Ban GMOs In Vaccines](#)