House passes GMO labeling bill, President expected to sign it in current form

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In a victory for food companies, Congress has passed a federal requirement for labeling products made with genetically modified organisms that will supersede tougher measures passed by one state and considered in others.

The bill will require labels to . . . show whether any of the ingredients had their natural DNA altered, but will take years to phase in and will give companies the option of using straightforward language, digital codes or a symbol to be designed later.

The terms are in contrast to a law that went into effect in July in Vermont. That law required food manufacturers and grocers selling prepared foods explicitly to label items that contained GMO ingredients by January. Companies that violate the law face fines of up to \$1,000 a day.

The compromise federal bill, which passed in the Senate [July 6] and passed 306-117 in the House of Representatives on [July 14], is <u>a likely relief for manufacturers</u>, farm groups and biotechnology companies

A White House spokeswoman said the administration anticipated signing the bill in its current form.

Read full, original post: Congress Passes GMO Labeling Rules That Supersede Tough State Measures