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KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Legislative Bill

| Deferred | to Con | nmittaa |
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House 2

Blue | Bill # 41

| Authors: | Kalle Eldridge, | Brenna DeWhitt, | Emilee Demoss, | Katlyn Callahan |
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Action on the Bill
House Senate

School: Rowan Co. Senior HS

| ☐ Passed | 🗆 Passed |
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| □ Defeated | ☐ Defeated |

City: Morehead

An act to create marketing regulations on FDA approved processed products

Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: From a food science perspective, it is difficult to define a food product that is "natural" because the food has probably been processed and is no longer the product of the earth. That said, FDA has not developed a definition for use of the term natural or its derivatives. However, the agency has not objected to the use of the term if the food does not contain added color, artificial flavors, or synthetic substances. Organic labels can be found on produce, dairy, meat, processed foods, condiments and beverages. Food products labeled "organic" must contain at least 95% organic ingredients with no synthetic growth hormones, antibiotics, pesticides, etc... used in production or processing. Products that contain at least 70 percent organic ingredients and are produced without synthetic methods are labeled "made with organic ingredients" although they cannot use the USDA organic seal on their packaging. This label denotes the food was grown using the same standards as those for organic, but not on a farm actually certified by the National Organic Program of the USDA's organic program, so this is an alternative, non-government certification system where other farmers act as inspectors in a program administered by a non-profit organization called Certified Naturally Grown. The Certified Naturally Grown label indicates that someone is certifying that it is indeed natural, rather than just using the word "Natural" for marketing purposes.

Section 2: This bill will revise and extend the preexisting USDA regulations and will greatly expand FDA regulations on labeling food products "natural". The current USDA and FDA regulations for this are either vague or "undefined". This allows food incorporations to falsely label their products and mislead consumers. Upon passage of this bill, the USDA and FDA will have to create more specific regulations for labeling their product natural.

Section 3: This bill affects anyone who consumes food products with the label "natural". With the current USDA and FDA regulations consumers are misinformed about what they are actually eating. According to the current regulations there is no difference between derived from biotechnology and their traditions counterparts. This means that the so called "natural" food that you are putting in your body can contain toxic pesticides, misuse antibiotics, and or growth hormones. Enactment of this bill will ensure that "natural" labeled products will be genetically, un-engineered and contain no artificial or synthetic ingredients. Ultimately, this bill will improve the health of consumers.

Section 4: The funding for this bill will come from the Department for Public Health Services.

Sections 5: This bill will go into effect upon passage.