

New Law Blocks Anti-GMO Scientists From Advising US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

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A new law will place restrictions on scientists with clear knowledge on GMO dangers, and create room for experts with overt financial ties to the biotech and pharmaceutical industries affected by EPA regulations. H.R. 1422, which passed 229-191, is an earthquake rumbling through the Environmental Protection Agency's Scientific Advisory Board.

This means that the EPA *can no longer be advised on their own research* regarding GMOs or pharmaceutical drugs like antibiotics or vaccines. Can you say circular reasoning, or insular logic? This 'reform' means industry-appointed experts [will determine what is 'safe'](#) and what is not safe for the public, and that the scientists with the most knowledge about the risks pertaining to GMOs and pharmaceuticals will be gagged.

As usual, is the classic political bait and switch, being touted as a means for 'more transparency.' But the White House, which threatened to veto the bill, [said](#) it would "negatively affect the appointment of experts and would weaken the scientific independence and integrity of the SAB."

As the Lindsay Abrams points out:

"... the bill forbids scientific experts from participating in "advisory activities" that either directly or indirectly involve their own work. In case that wasn't clear: experts would be forbidden from sharing their expertise in their own research."

This also means that while Monsanto [hides the toxicity results](#) on RoundUp Ready GMO crops and experts call [GMO testing woefully inadequate](#), we now have yet another layer of bureaucracy to protect Big Biotech. With all the anti-science claims made by biotech toward individuals and non-profits who claim GMOs are not safe, this is the exact pot calling the kettle black.

"In other words," says Union of Concerned Scientists director Andrew A. Rosenberg in an editorial for RollCall, "academic scientists who know the most about a subject can't weigh in, but experts paid by corporations who want to block regulations can."

If there was ever a question that our government has been completely infiltrated by extremely questionable interests, let it be known that the stakes have just been raised.

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