



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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## **Michael Soboleski**

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February 6, 2025

### ***LD 113: An Act to Require Food Labels to Disclose Use of Messenger Ribonucleic Acid Vaccine Material in Food Production***

Senator Ross, Representative Pluecker, & esteemed members of the Agriculture, Conservation, & Forestry Committee.

As the sponsor of this bill, I am committed to ensuring transparency and safety in our food supply. The introduction of mRNA technology in food production has raised significant concerns among consumers and experts alike. While mRNA technology holds promise for enhancing nutritional value and food safety, it is crucial that consumers have the right to know if their food contains this technology.

This bill mandates clear and conspicuous labeling on all food products containing mRNA. Consumers deserve to make informed decisions about what they eat, and this labeling requirement ensures they have the necessary information to do so.

There are ongoing debates about the long-term health effects of consuming foods with mRNA. While current research is promising, the lack of comprehensive studies necessitates caution. Labeling will allow consumers to avoid these products if they choose, until more data is available.

The mRNA vaccine works differently from traditional vaccines. Instead of using a virus or part of a virus, it uses genetic information to instruct the body's cells to make a part of the virus called an antigen. This method is very safe and helps the immune system recognize and fight the virus without causing an infection.

One example is the Sequivity® vaccine for pigs. This vaccine contains a small piece of genetic material from the virus. After it's injected, the cells in the muscle take up the mRNA, produce the viral protein, and display it on the cell's surface.

Dr. Kevin Folta, a molecular biologist at the University of Florida, in multiple articles, explains that the mRNA stays where it's injected and is very unstable, requiring special conditions to remain effective.

All licensed vaccines have a "withdrawal time," which is the minimum period before the vaccinated animal can enter the food chain, as explained by Alan Young, a professor at South Dakota State University.

mRNA vaccines have some potential risks, such as allergic reactions (anaphylaxis), Bell's palsy, facial swelling, and issues for people with weakened immune systems. However, these serious side effects are rare. Safety recommendations include spacing out vaccines for young men and women and avoiding mRNA vaccines for those with weakened immune systems.

Moderna scientists have highlighted potential toxicity risks associated with mRNA technology. They mentioned possible side effects like heart inflammation and severe allergic reactions. These issues might be caused by certain components of the vaccine.

Dr. Robert Malone, regarded as an inventor of mRNA vaccines and DNA vaccines; world-wide expert in RNA technologies. Dr Malone is an internationally recognized scientist (virology, immunology, molecular biology) and is known as one of the original inventors of mRNA vaccination and DNA vaccination. a pioneer in mRNA technology, has expressed concerns about using modified mRNA vaccines in livestock, especially cattle. He mentioned potential health risks for both animals and humans, as well as economic impacts. He also noted that these vaccines may contain small DNA fragments that can enter animal cells.

It's important to approach the use of mRNA vaccines in livestock with caution and ensure thorough research and safety evaluations.

Several concerns raised about the use of mRNA technology in the food supply. Some of the key issues are:

1. **Safety:** Some people worry about the long-term health effects of consuming foods that contain mRNA. They fear that the technology might have unforeseen consequences on human health.
2. **Allergic Reactions:** Some people might have allergic reactions to the mRNA or the lipid nanoparticles used to deliver it.
3. **Environmental Impact:** There are concerns about the environmental impact of producing mRNA-based foods. The production process might require significant resources and could contribute to pollution.
4. **Ethical Considerations:** The use of genetic modification in food production raises ethical questions. Some people are concerned about the potential for unintended consequences and the moral implications of altering the genetic makeup of food.
5. **Regulation and Oversight:** There is a lack of clear regulatory frameworks for mRNA-based foods. This uncertainty can lead to concerns about the safety and quality of these products.
6. **Unknown Long-Term Effects:** As mRNA technology is relatively new, the long-term effects on human health and the environment are still unknown.
7. **Public Perception:** The public might be wary of consuming foods that contain mRNA due to a lack of understanding or misinformation about the technology.

These concerns highlight the need for thorough research, transparent communication, and robust regulatory frameworks to ensure the safe and ethical use of mRNA technology in the food supply

In conclusion, this bill is about empowering consumers with knowledge and ensuring the safety of our food supply. I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

I encourage you to research the work of:

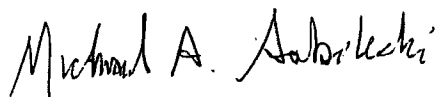
Dr. Kevin Folta, molecular biologist and professor at the University of Florida

Alan Young, professor in the Dept. of veterinary Biomedical Sciences at South Dakota University and founder of protein platform {non-mRNA} vaccine company Medgene

Dr. Robert Malone, a prominent figure in mRNA technology research and development, to discuss the potential implications of using modified mRNA vaccines. Ref: Warning Against Modified mRNA Vaccines for Cattle – CO December 27, 2023 - Veronika Kyrlyenko, Ph.D. - Senior editor of The New American

Nature Reviews Drug Discovery on Jan. 23. Moderna Scientists Warn mRNA Vaccines Carry Toxicity Risks - The technology used in Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine carries toxicity risks, scientists with the company said in a new paper. "A major challenge now is how to efficiently de-risk potential toxicities associated with mRNA technology," the scientists wrote in the paper,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael A. Soboleski". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'M'.

Michael A. Soboleski  
State Representative



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February 5, 2025

## **Dr. Kevin Folta**

- **Position:** Professor, University of Florida
- **Accolades:**
  - Recipient of the **University of Florida Research Foundation Professorship**
  - Awarded the **American Society of Plant Biologists Leadership in Science Public Service Award**
  - Recognized as one of the **Top 100 Influential People in Food and Agriculture** by the World Economic Forum

## **Professor Alan Young**

- **Position:** Department of Veterinary Biomedical Sciences, South Dakota University
- **Accolades:**
  - Recipient of the **South Dakota State University Distinguished Research Award**
  - Awarded the **American Veterinary Medical Association Research Award**
  - Recognized for his contributions to **veterinary science and education**

## **Dr. Robert Malone**

- **Position:** Researcher and Scientist
- **Accolades:**
  - Known for his work on **mRNA technology and vaccines**
  - Recipient of the **National Institutes of Health (NIH) Director's Pioneer Award**
  - Recognized for his contributions to **biomedical research and innovation**

## **Nature Reviews Drug Discovery**

- **Overview:** A monthly journal that publishes review articles on the latest developments in drug discovery and development.
- **Focus Areas:**
  - New therapeutic targets
  - Drug development strategies
  - Clinical trial design and outcomes
  - Regulatory and policy issues in drug discovery