

Resolution
by Councilor Aspel Velucci

6/4/84

Whereas; it has been reported nationally that the University of California is proposing to release genetically engineered organisms into the environment which caused the federal court to issue an order stopping said University of California from conducting the first deliberate release of genetically engineered organism ~~for~~ into the environment; and

Whereas; the temporary injunction also prohibits the National Institute of Health, which had approved the experiments by scientists from the university at Berkeley, California, from allowing similar field tests of genetically engineered organisms;

Whereas; it is ~~repose~~ reported that "plain people" in California claim that the N.I.H. has violated federal law by failing to require that environmental impact statements before approving such field tests; and

Whereas; my gut feeling is that the problem will substantiate my proclamation that sooner or later scientists would be releasing genetically engineered organisms into the environment either ~~by intention~~ or by deliberately

errors. And

Whereas; it is charged by the "plain people" of California that the release of the genetically engineered bacterium could do irreversible damage to the ecology of the area; and

Whereas; there is at present research going on in the bio-labs of Harvard University, ~~and~~ Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and ~~the~~ other private corporate laboratories on DNA, which may or may not be thinking of releasing genetically engineered organisms in Cambridge, in surrounding communities or on Massachusetts farms

Therefore, be it resolved that the Scientific Advisory Committee to the City Council be requested to investigate the entire matter of genetically engineered organisms at all laboratories doing DNA research, whether they be Colleges, schools, private laboratories, and that said Scientific Advisory Committee be further requested to study the present DNA ordinance and to amend same if necessary, and to report back to this City Council as soon as possible.



City of Cambridge

1.

COUNCILLOR VELLUCCI

IN CITY COUNCIL

June 4, 1984

- WHEREAS: It has been reported nationally that the University of California is proposing to release genetically engineered organisms into the environment, which caused the federal court to issue an order stopping said University of California from conducting the first deliberate release of genetically engineered organisms into the environment; and
- WHEREAS: The temporary injunction also prohibits the National Institute of Health, which had approved the experiments by scientists from the University at Berkeley, California, from allowing similar field tests of genetically engineered organisms; and
- WHEREAS: It is reported that "plain people" in California claim that the N.I.H. has violated federal law by failing to require that environmental impact statements before approving such field tests; and
- WHEREAS: My gut feeling is that the problem will substantiate my proclamation that sooner or later scientists would be releasing genetically engineered organisms into the environment, either deliberately or by error; and
- WHEREAS: It is charged by the "plain people" of California that the release of the genetically engineered bacterium could do irreversible damage to the ecology of the area; and
- WHEREAS: There is at present, research going on in the bio-labs of Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and other private corporate laboratories on DNA, which may or may not be thinking of releasing genetically engineered organisms in Cambridge, in surrounding communities, or on Massachusetts farms; therefore be it
- RESOLVED: That the Scientific Advisory Committee to the City Council be requested to investigate the entire matter of genetically engineered organisms and all laboratories doing DNA research, whether they be colleges, schools, private laboratories, and that said Scientific Advisory Committee be further requested to study the present DNA Ordinance and to amend same if necessary, and to report back to this City Council as soon as possible.

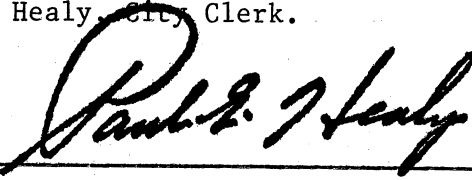
In City Council May 4, 1984.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of 7 members.

Attest:- Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Paul E. Healy", written over a horizontal line.

Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

Order # 1

S-366

C. Vellucci re: Scientific Advisory Committee to the City Council to investigate the entire matter of genetically engineered organisms & all laboratories doing DNA research & study the present DNA Ordinance with a view toward amending same, if necessary.

In City Council,

June 4, 1984

6/4/84

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Copy sent to Allen Cherish of
Scientific Advisory Committee
6/6/84 mh