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## Is Organic Farming Killer Rep. Rosa DeLauro Becoming the Most Hated Woman in America? (I Hope So)

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March 20, 2009

[Is Organic Farming Killer Rep. Rosa DeLauro Becoming the Most Hated Woman in America? \(I Hope So\) Mar. 20, 2009](#)

From: **John C. Hammell**, President International Advocates for Health Freedom (IAHF) <http://www.iahf.org>  
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Congresswoman **Rosa De Lauro** (Whose Husband Works for Monsanto)

IAHF List:

Seems that Congresswoman *Rosa De Lauro*, the sponsor of HR 875, the (so called) Food Safety Modernization Act, has a husband employed by Monsanto, a company that would directly benefit from the provisions in her bill that threaten to destroy organic farmers and even backyard gardeners via threats of gigantic fines and massive red tape....

Please utilize the info below to raise bloody hell with De Lauro and your own member of Congress, and *if you happen to live in the state of Connecticut, and can help me contact every organic gardening club in the state about this, please let me know your phone number.*



*We'll organize a Tsunami of opposition to this bill from De Lauro's constituents especially so it can be dutifully buried and De Lauro's congressional career appropriately ENDED.*

*Lose Your Property for Growing Food?*

*Bye-Bye Organic Foods!*

Big Brother legislation could mean prosecution, fines up to \$1 million

Attached is a fax that I am sending to both my Senators and House Representative. . . . . Find your representative at: <http://www.congress.org/congressorg/directory/congdir.tt>

We need to flood Congress about this Insane Legislature to benefit Monsanto

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## Lose Your Property for Growing Food?

March 16, 2009

By Chelsea Schilling

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Some small farms and organic food growers could be placed under direct supervision of the federal government under new legislation making its way through Congress.

### Food Safety Modernization Act

House Resolution 875, or the Food Safety Modernization Act of 2009, was introduced by [Rosa DeLauro, D Conn.](#), in February. DeLauro's husband, Stanley Greenburg, works for [Monsanto](#) – the world's leading producer of herbicides and genetically engineered seed.

DeLauro's act has [39 co-sponsors](#) and was referred to the House Agriculture Committee on Feb. 4. It calls for the creation of a Food Safety Administration to allow the government to regulate food production at all levels and even mandates property seizure, fines of up to \$1 million per offense and criminal prosecution for producers, manufacturers and distributors who fail to comply with regulations.

Michael Olson, host of the Food Chain radio show and author of "[Metro Farm](#)," told WND the government should focus on regulating food production in countries such as China and Mexico rather than burdening small and organic farmers in the U.S. with overreaching regulations.

"We need somebody to watch over us when we're eating food that comes from thousands and thousands of miles away. We need some help there," he said. "But when food comes from our neighbors or from farmers we know, we don't need all of those rules. If your neighbor sells you something that is bad and you get sick are going to get your hands on that farmer, and that will be the end of it. It regulates itself."

The legislation would establish the Food Safety Administration within the Department of Health and Human Services "to protect the public health by preventing food-borne illness, ensuring the safety of food, improving research on contaminants leading to food-borne illness, and improving security of food from intentional contamination, and for other purposes."

Federal regulators will be tasked with ensuring that food producers, processors and distributors – both large and small – prevent and minimize food safety hazards such as food-borne illnesses and contaminants such as bacteria, chemicals, natural toxins or manufactured toxicants, viruses, parasites, prions, physical hazards or other human pathogens.

Under the legislation's broad wording, slaughterhouses, seafood processing plants, establishments that produce, store, hold or transport all categories of food products prior to delivery for retail sale, farms, ranches, orchards, vineyards, aquaculture facilities and confined animal-feeding operations would be subject to strict government regulation.

Government inspectors would be required to visit and examine food production facilities, including small farms, to ensure compliance. They would review food safety records and conduct surveillance of animals, plants, products or the environment.

"What the government will do is bring in industry experts to tell them how to manage all this stuff," Olson said. "It's industry that's telling government how to set these things up. What it always boils down to is who can afford to have the most influence over the government. It would be those companies that have sufficient economies of scale to be able to afford the influence – which is, of course, industrial agriculture."

Farms and food producers would be forced to submit copies of all records to federal inspectors upon request to determine whether food is contaminated, to ensure they are in compliance with food safety laws and to maintain government tracking records. Refusal to register, permit inspector access or testing of food or equipment would be prohibited.

"What is going to happen is that local agriculture will end up suffering through some onerous protocols designed for international agriculture that they simply don't need," Olson said. "Thus, it will be a way for industrial agriculture to manage local agriculture."

Under the act, every food producer must have a written food safety plan describing likely hazards and preventative controls they have implemented and must abide by "minimum standards related to fertilizer use, nutrients, hygiene, packaging, temperature controls, animal encroachment, and water."

"That opens a whole can of worms," Olson said. "I think that's where people are starting to freak out about losing organic agriculture. Who is going to decide what the minimum standards are for fertilization or anything else? The government is going to bring in big industry and say we are setting up these protocols, so what do you think we should do? Who is it going to bring in to ask? The government will bring in people who have economies of scale who have that kind of influence."

DeLauro's act calls for the Food Safety Administration to create a "national traceability system" to retrieve history, use and location of each food product through all stages of production, processing and distribution.

Olson believes the regulations could create unjustifiable financial hardships for small farmers and run them out of business.

"That is often the purpose of rules and regulations: to get rid of your competition," he said. "Only people who are very, very large can afford to comply. They can hire one person to do paperwork. There's a specialized labor force there, and when you are very small, you can't afford to do all of these things."

Olson said despite good intentions behind the legislation, this act could devastate small U.S. farms.

"Every time we pass a rule or a law or a regulation to make the world a better place, it seems like what we are subsidizing is production offshore," he said. "We tell farmers they can no longer drive diesel tractors because they make bad smoke. Well, essentially what we're doing is giving China a subsidy to grow our crops for us, or Mexico or anyone else."

Section 304 of the Food Safety Modernization Act establishes a group of "experts and stakeholders from Federal, State, and local food safety and health agencies, the food industry, consumer organizations, and academia" to make recommendations for improving food-borne illness surveillance.

According to the act, "Any person that commits an act that violates the food safety law ... may be assessed a civil penalty by the Administrator of not more than \$1,000,000 for each such act."

Each violation and each separate day the producer is in defiance of the law would be considered a separate offense and an additional penalty. The act suggests federal administrators consider the gravity of the violation, the degree of responsibility and the size and type of business when determining penalties.

Criminal sanctions may be imposed if contaminated food causes serious illness or death, and offenders may face fines and imprisonment of up to 10 years.

"It's just frightening what can happen with good intentions," Olson said. "It's probably the most radical notion on the face of this Earth, but local agriculture doesn't need government because it takes care of itself."

## Food Safety and Tracking Improvement Act

Another "food safety" bill that has organic and small farmers worried is [Senate Bill 425, or the Food Safety Tracking Improvement Act](#), sponsored by [Sen. Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio](#).

Brown's bill is backed by lobbyists for Monsanto, Archer Daniels Midland and Tyson. It was introduced in September and has been referred to the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee. Some say the legislation could also put small farmers out of business.

Like HR 875, the measure establishes a nationwide "traceability system" monitored by the Food and Drug Administration for all stages of manufacturing, processing, packaging and distribution of food. It would cost \$40 million over three years.

"We must ensure that the federal government has the ability and authority to protect the public, given the nature of the food supply," Brown said when he introduced the bill. He suggested the FDA and USDA have power to declare mandatory recalls.

The government would track food shipped in interstate commerce through a recordkeeping and audit system secure, online database or registered identification. Each farmer or producer would be required to maintain records regarding the purchase, sale and identification of their products.

A 13-member advisory committee of food safety and tracking technology experts, representatives of the food industry, consumer advocates and government officials would assist in implementing the traceability system.

The bill calls for the committee to establish a national database or registry operated by the Food and Drug Administration. It also proposes an electronic records database to identify sales of food and its ingredients "establishing that the food and its ingredients were grown, prepared, handled, manufactured, processed, distributed, shipped, warehoused, imported, and conveyed under conditions that ensure the safety of the food."

It states, "The records should include an electronic statement with the date of, and the names and addresses of all parties to, each prior sale, purchase, or trade, and any other information as appropriate."

If government inspectors find that a food item is not in compliance, they may force producers to cease distribution, recall the item or confiscate it.

"If the postal service can track a package from my office in Washington to my office in Cincinnati, we should be able to do the same for food products," Sen. Brown said in a Sept. 4, 2008, statement. "Families that are struggling with the high cost of groceries should not also have to worry about the safety of their food. This legislation gives the government the resources it needs to protect the public."

Recalls of contaminated food are usually voluntary; however, in his weekly radio address on March 15, President Obama announced he's forming a Food Safety Working Group to propose new laws and stop corruption of the nation's food.

The group will review, update and enforce food safety laws, which Obama said "have not been updated since they were written in the time of Teddy Roosevelt."

The president said outbreaks from contaminated foods, such as a recent salmonella outbreak among consumers of peanut products, have occurred more frequently in recent years due to outdated regulations, fewer inspected back inspections and a lack of information sharing between government agencies.

"In the end, food safety is something I take seriously, not just as your president but as a parent," Obama said. "No parent should have to worry that their child is going to get sick from their lunch just as no family should have to worry that the medicines they buy will cause them harm."

The blogosphere is buzzing with comments on the legislation, including the following:

- \* Obama and his cronies or his puppetmasters are trying to take total control – nationalize everything

- disarm the populace, control food, etc. We are seeing the formation of a total police state.
- \* Well ... that's not very " green " of Obama. What's his real agenda?
  - \* This is getting way out of hand! Isn't it enough the FDA already allows poisons in our foods?
  - \* If you're starving, no number of guns will enable you to stay free. That's the whole idea behind this legislation. He who controls the food really makes the rules.
  - \* The government is terrified of the tax loss. Imagine all the tax dollars lost if people actually grew th own vegetables! Imagine if people actually coordinated their efforts with family, friends and neighbc People could be in no time eating for the price of their own effort. ... Oh the horror of it all! The last t the government wants is for us to be self-sufficient.
  - \* They want to make you dependent upon government. I say no way! already the government is givin away taxes from my great great grandchildren and now they want to take away my food, my semi-au rifles, my right to alternative holistic medicine? We need a revolution, sheeple! Wake up! They want fascism ... can you not see that?
  - \* The screening processes will make it very expensive for smaller farmers, where bigger agriculture corporations can foot the bill.
  - \* If anything it just increases accountability, which is arguably a good thing. It pretty much says they only confiscate your property if there are questions of contamination and you don't comply with their inspections. I think the severity of this has been blown out of proportion by a lot of conjecture.
  - \* Don't waste your time calling the criminals in D.C. and begging them to act like humans. This will with a bloody revolt.
  - \* The more I examine this (on the surface) seemingly innocuous bill the more I hate it. It is a coward ploy to push out of business small farms and farmers markets without actually making them illegal because many will choose not to operate due to the compliance issue.

[Lose Your Property for Growing Food?](http://www.worldnetdaily.com/index.php?fa=PAGE.view&pageId=92002)

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Letter to House Rep Re HR 875--Blank form.doc

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