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## HOUSE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Wednesday, February 12, 2014 at 3:00pm

### **Testimony on HB 4100, Relating to GMO**

Dear Chair Hoyle and Members of the Committee on Rules:

Wine Institute ("WI") is a public policy association representing 923 California wineries and associated businesses. WI **opposes** HB 4100, which makes legislative findings and declarations regarding genetically engineered food and requires labeling of genetically engineered raw agricultural commodities and packages of genetically engineered processed food offered or expected to be offered for retail sale within state.

HB 4100 as currently written doesn't exclude alcohol from the definition of genetically engineered food.

The labeling of foods with genetically engineered material is a complicated issue which WI believes is best addressed with a national standard as opposed to a patchwork of local and state laws. We support the concept of Federal legislation similar to that being proposed by the Coalition for Safe Affordable Food. This coalition currently includes the Grocery Manufacturers of America, the American Beverage Association and twenty other organizations.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to submit testimony on this measure.