



STATE OF VERMONT
JOINT FISCAL OFFICE

MEMORANDUM

To: Joint Fiscal Committee Members
From: Nathan Lavery, Senior Fiscal Analyst
Date: August 4, 2014
Subject: Grant Request #2692

Enclosed please find one (1) item that the Joint Fiscal Office has received from the administration.

JFO #2692 – \$53,000 grant from MoveOn.Org Civic Action to the Vermont Department of Finance and Management. These funds will a portion of the cover costs associated with implementation and administration of new law that requires labeling of food produced from genetic engineering. The donated funds will be deposited in the Vermont Food Fight Fund.

[JFO received 08/04/14]

Please review the enclosed materials and notify the Joint Fiscal Office (Nathan Lavery at (802) 828-1488; nlavery@leg.state.vt.us) if you have questions or would like an item held for legislative review. Unless we hear from you to the contrary by August 18 we will assume that you agree to consider as final the Governor's acceptance of these requests.

State of Vermont
 Department of Finance & Management
 109 State Street, Pavilion Building
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Agency of Administration

JFO 2692

**STATE OF VERMONT
 FINANCE & MANAGEMENT GRANT REVIEW FORM**

Grant Summary:		Donation to help fund the "Food Fight Fund" to pay costs incurred by the Atty General as a result of requirements for labeling of food produced from genetic engineering.			
Date:		7/15/2014			
Department:		AoA Finance & Management.			
Legal Title of Grant:		Food Fight Fund Donation - MoveOn.Org Civic Action			
Federal Catalog #:		N/A			
Grant/Donor Name and Address:		MoveOn.Org Civic Action. PO Box 9218, Berkeley, CA 94709			
Grant Period:		From:	To:		
		7/7/2014			
Grant/Donation		\$53,000			
	SFY 1	SFY 2	SFY 3	Total	Comments
Grant Amount:	\$53,000	\$	\$	\$53,000	
Position Information:		# Positions	Explanation/Comments		
		0			
Additional Comments:					
Department of Finance & Management		SC		(Initial)	
Secretary of Administration		MC 07/15/14		(Initial)	
Sent To Joint Fiscal Office				Date 8/4/13	

RECEIVED
 AUG 04 2014
JOINT FISCAL OFFICE



STATE OF VERMONT REQUEST FOR GRANT (*) ACCEPTANCE (Form AA-1)

1. Agency:	Administration			
2. Department:	Finance & Management			
3. Program:	Food Fight Fund			
4. Legal Title of Grant:	Food Fight Fund Donation - MoveOn.Org Civic Action			
5. Federal Catalog #:	N/A			
6. Grant/Donor Name and Address: MoveOn.Org Civic Action, PO Box 9218, Berkeley, CA 94709				
7. Grant Period:	From:	7/7/2014	To:	
8. Purpose of Grant: To pay costs or liabilities incurred by the Attorney General or the State for the implementation and administration, including rulemaking, of the requirements under 9 V.S.A. chapter 82A for the labeling of food produced from genetic engineering.				
9. Impact on existing program if grant is not Accepted: Insufficient funds to cover the costs detailed above.				
	SFY 1	SFY 2	SFY 3	Comments
Expenditures:	FY 15	FY	FY	
Personal Services	\$53,000	\$	\$	Legal contract.
Operating Expenses	\$	\$	\$	
Grants	\$	\$	\$	
Total	\$53,000	\$	\$	
Revenues:				
State Funds:				
Cash	\$	\$	\$	
In-Kind	\$	\$	\$	
Federal Funds:				
(Direct Costs)	\$	\$	\$	
(Statewide Indirect)	\$	\$	\$	
(Departmental Indirect)	\$	\$	\$	
Other Funds:				
Grant (source Donation)	\$53,000	\$	\$	
Total	\$53,000	\$	\$	
Appropriation No:	1110003000	Amount:	\$53,000	
			\$	
			\$	
			\$	
			\$	
			\$	
			\$	
		Total	\$53,000	

STATE OF VERMONT REQUEST FOR GRANT (*) ACCEPTANCE (Form AA-1)

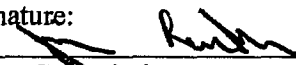
Has current fiscal year budget detail been entered into Vantage? Yes No

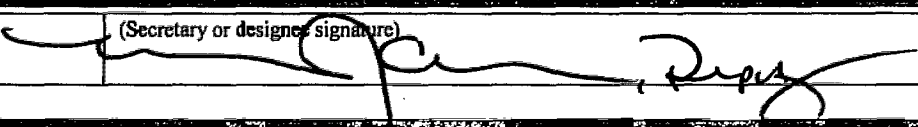
11. Will monies from this grant be used to fund one or more Personal Service Contracts? Yes No
 If "Yes", appointing authority must initial here to indicate intent to follow current competitive bidding process/policy.


Appointing Authority Name: Jim Reardon Agreed by: _____ (initial)

12. Limited Service Position Information:	# Positions	Title
Total Positions		

12a. Equipment and space for these positions: Is presently available. Can be obtained with available funds.

I/we certify that no funds beyond basic application preparation and filing costs have been expended or committed in anticipation of Joint Fiscal Committee approval of this grant, unless previous notification was made on Form AA-1PN (if applicable):	Signature: 	Date: 7/15/14
	Title: Commissioner	
	Signature:	Date:
	Title:	

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved:	(Secretary or designee signature) 	Date: 07/15/14
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted	(Governor's signature) 	Date: 7/23/14
<input type="checkbox"/> Rejected		

- Required GRANT Documentation**
- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Request Memo | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of Donation (if any) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dept. project approval (if applicable) | <input type="checkbox"/> Grant (Project) Timeline (if applicable) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Award | <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Extension (if applicable) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Agreement | <input type="checkbox"/> Form AA-1PN attached (if applicable) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Budget | |

(*) The term "grant" refers to any grant, gift, loan, or any sum of money or thing of value to be accepted by any agency, department, commission, board, or other part of state government (see 32 V.S.A. §5).



About The Vermont Food Fight Fund

The Vermont Food Fight Fund was established by the Vermont Legislature in April 2014 as a special fund to support the State's implementation and administration of its first-in-the-nation clear Genetically Engineered food labeling law, including in litigation anticipated to be filed against it.

Donations to The Food Fight Fund will help Vermont establish its labeling law and mount a powerful defense against any lawsuits. To learn more about the Fund or how you can contribute, please [visit our donation page](#).

Following is Governor Shumlin's [press release](#) that followed the bill signing ceremony on May 8, 2014.

GOV. PETER SHUMLIN SIGNS FIRST-IN-THE-NATION GENETICALLY ENGINEERED FOODS LABELING LAW

MONTPELIER – May 8, 2014 – Joined by farmers, environmental groups, businesses – including Ben & Jerry's CEO Jostein Solheim – and others from across the country, Vermont Gov. Peter Shumlin today signed a first-in-the-nation law requiring the labeling of food produced from genetic engineering.

"Vermonters take our food and how it is produced seriously, and we believe we have a right to know what's in the food we buy," Gov. Shumlin told the crowd gathered on the State House lawn for the signing event. "I am proud that we're leading the way in the United States to require labeling of genetically engineered food. More than 60 countries have already restricted or labeled these foods, and now one state – Vermont – will also ensure that we know what's in the food we buy and serve our families."

Speakers at today's event included Rural Vermont board members Carl Russell and Lisa McCrory, farmers who first met at a 'kitchen meeting' of advocates focused on genetically engineered foods, as well as 11-year-old Brigid Armbrust, who attended legislative committee meetings, launched a letter-writing campaign in support of labeling and pushed to get young Vermonters involved in the issue.

"I'm so proud of the state I live in," Armbrust said. "I feel like this is a wonderful step toward a healthier world and I'm so glad Vermont is the first to take it!"

The Governor signed the bill into law as a local band played, the crowd enjoyed the sunshine on the State House lawn, and the Ben & Jerry's Scoop Truck dished out free ice cream. Ben & Jerry's CEO Solheim, who spoke at the bill-signing, said all his company's products will carry a label indicating they source only non-GMO by the end of 2014.

"We're so pleased that this law will further enhance the reputation and trust in the Vermont brand that has been so important to our company's identity," Solheim said.

Under the new law, food for human consumption offered for retail sale in Vermont that is entirely or partially produced with genetic engineering must be labeled to indicate this fact, as of July 1, 2016. Violators face penalties and further action by the Attorney General's Office.

In addition, the bill creates a special fund to support the implementation and administration of the state labeling law, including costs and fees associated with expected challenge in court by food producers who do not want to disclose this information to consumers. Information about donating to the fund can be found at www.foodfightfundvt.org.

"The constitutionality of the GMO labeling law will undoubtedly be challenged," said Vermont Attorney General William Sorrell. "I can make no predictions or promises about how the courts will ultimately rule but I can promise that my office will mount a vigorous and zealous defense of the law that has so much support from Vermont consumers. I thank the Governor and the Legislature for ensuring we have the resources we need to get the job done."

"There is no doubt that there are those who will work to derail this common sense legislation. But I believe this bill is the right thing to do and will gain momentum elsewhere after our action here in Vermont," said Gov. Shumlin. "As you know, we're in the middle of an agricultural renaissance in Vermont because more and more Vermonters care about where their food comes from, what's in it, and who grew it. It makes sense that we are again leading the nation in this important step forward."

Follow Us



Contact Us

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