

March 14, 2019

Attention: Senator Prozanski and Members of the Committee

From: Courtney Yeager

Re: SB638- The right to release and rehome cats and dogs from testing laboratories

Dear Mr. Prozanski and Members of the Committee,

For the record my name is Courtney Yeager and I am a 5th grade teacher in Beaverton, Oregon.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for considering Senate Bill 638, allowing laboratory animals the right to be released and rehomed.

I wholeheartedly support SB638 as it is a kind and common-sense law that will only have positive impact. As an animal lover, I am saddened and disturbed to know that cruel experiments are taking place on cats, dogs, primates and other animals in my own backyard. Although I am opposed to this action, I do understand the argument that such testing may be necessary for the advancement of human healthcare. I do not understand however, why after enduring such horrific testing, animals that would otherwise be considered much-loved members of a family, are not afforded the opportunity to live-out whatever life they have left, in the comfort of a caring home and safe environment. Surly, this is the least we can do for animals that have sacrificed so much.

Senate Bill 638 is important to me as a taxpayer, animal lover and educator. I am saddened that my taxpayer dollars are being used to fund animal testing. As a teacher, I have taught my students that having their voice heard is important, and if they take risks and challenge the status quo, they can have a lasting impact. I am honored that my former students have taken the time to ensure that the cats and dogs suffering in laboratories will have a voice.

I trust that you will join California, Connecticut, Illinois, Nevada, New York, and Rhode Island in passing the Beagle Bill (SB638) and in showing the country that Oregon is also at the forefront of being a compassionate state.

There is a quote that reads *"You can judge the character of a man by how he treats animals."* Please take humane action in passing Senate Bill 638.

Kind Regards,
Courtney Yeager
Fifth Grade Teacher