

Good morning, my name is Kaliska King, from Linn County, and I fully support this bill. I am an adopter of a laboratory survivor and an active volunteer for the Rescue + Freedom Project.

(This is Leila she is a laboratory survivor)

In July 2015, Leila was released from a laboratory. She didn't have a name, she was only known by the federal identification number tattooed in her ear.

She had lived from birth to age 1.5 in a metal cage not knowing what was going to happen to her next.

When she was released, she started her journey of doing things for the first time. During her first couple days of freedom, she rode in a car, stepped on grass, went outside and got lots of treats and love.

During her first year out of the laboratory, she learned by watching other dogs. At 1.5 years old, Leila was a puppy all over again.

She didn't know how to play, cuddle, walk on a leash, use a doggie door and take a treat from someone's hand. We were very patient with her. Leila had to learn to trust us that we weren't going to hurt her or force tests on her.

Today, Leila has been free for 3.5 years. She is still learning. I feel like a proud mom when her child takes a first step, we celebrate all of her new accomplishments. For instance, 2 months ago she rolled over and wanted us to scratch her belly! That may seem small, but to us that was huge!

Despite all that she went through, Leila still sees the good in the world.

Now, she plays with socks, squeaky toys, cuddles, goes on long hikes, bays when she is excited for her breakfast, and runs as fast as she can to greet you at the door when you come home.

Having Leila as a part of your family is amazing! It's important to me to share her story and to be the voice for the animals still in the laboratories. To fight for them to have a loving home after all they have given for others is near and dear to me.

Thank you for listening and for the possibility of a future for these deserved animals. Please let me know if you have any questions.