

Submitter: Jennifer Siebert

RE: Yes vote on HB2904

Chair Grayber, Vice Chair Lewis, Vice Chair Tran, and Members of the Committee:

Firstly, I steadfastly support HB2904 and urge a “do pass” recommendation for this bill.

I write to you today, not affiliated with any certain group or organization but as an Oregonian, a nurse, a taxpayer and a voter.

The why behind my support of HB2904:

Although the Oregon National Primate Research Center (ONPRC) is subject to oversight by the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the National Institutes of Health and it would seem at first glance this bill is redundant to requirements already stipulated by these to agencies. This is not accurate.

The Code of Federal Regulations at Animal Welfare 9 C.F.R. Parts 1, 2, and 3 are missing crucial pieces that HB2904 provides, and that is, information transparency for the public!

HB2904 stipulates inclusion of additional consequential and significant information lacking in the above utilized by the USDA. Furthermore, it has been no secret the USDA for years has been struggling with staffing and supporting their own processes, which leaves to question, the quality of their own oversight and ability to meet with accuracy, regulatory visits to centers like ONPRC.

To rest on “redundancy” and a “passing grade” from the USDA and NIH as a platform to oppose HB2904, would be shortsighted and lacking.

Evidence of ONPRC infractions, impartiality to the welfare of the animals and even at times, an arrogance of untouchability related to accountability is apparent and inexcusable.

HB2904 will be specific for Oregon oversight, taking the responsibility to a local level, rather than a diluted federal process that lacks in ensuring transparency of information outlined in HB2904.

Lastly, animal testing is rapidly becoming antiquated and unnecessary. We continue to cloak the use of animal testing with using “the greater good” and other fear mongering language and catch phrases to scare citizens into believing this is the only way. This is untrue.

New methods are constantly being strengthened and improved. IF animal testing is to be used, we must impose the strictest of oversight and expect the highest level of integrity and honesty.

I support HB2904 and urge the committee a “do pass” recommendation.

With respect and gratitude for your service to Oregon,

Jennifer Siebert