

Submitter: Heather Sidener

On Behalf  
Of:

Committee: House Committee On Emergency Management, General  
Government, and Veterans

Measure: HB2904

Oregon and all of humanity relies on scientific discovery to improve human and animal health. The Oregon National Primate Research Center is a premier institution that contributes to numerous breakthroughs and improvements in scientific understanding. Animal research is one of the most highly regulated industries in general; the reputation of the ONPRC is stellar throughout the research community. Comparisons of ONRPC's errors to human hospitals and human clinical trials readily reveal how very low the error and accident rates are. The animals housed at the ONRPC receive far better health, husbandry and psychological care than many, many people in Oregon, because scientists and veterinarians know that happy, healthy animals are a requirement for quality science outcomes. As a highly regulated institution, additional reporting represents "busywork" designed to waste taxpayer funding and preclude the advancement of the science that the taxpayers and NIH expects ONPRC to produce. Current regulations adequately confer relevant information to the federal government, which as the source of ONPRC's funding is the appropriate place for reports to be delivered. ONPRC self reports non-compliances when found and posts copies of USDA findings on the internet, making it easy for the public to understand what happened when things do not go as planned.

This bill represents regulatory overreach and directly contradicts the 21st Century Cures Act, which directed agencies to reduce unnecessary regulation, and should not be passed. Those who do not believe in science and the importance of biomedical research are utilizing this reporting request to further their agendas. Fulfillment of their desires would be contraindicated to common sense, scientific progress, and a reality based understanding of the oversight currently in place for animal research. Please vote against this bill.