

Chair Grayber and members of the committee,

My name is Haley Wolford Davis. I am currently a Vet Research/Health Tech 3 in the Small Lab Animal Unit at the Oregon National Primate Research Center, OHSU's West Campus, and I have been there for 16 years this month. I am also the Chief Steward of AFSCME Local 328, representing over 7,000 workers at OHSU. I reside in Beaverton, OR.

I am offering written testimony in opposition to House Bill 2904 on behalf of AFSCME Local 328 animal care workers on the ONPRC campus. We love our animals and our jobs, and we've remained committed to both through short staffing and burnout that isn't unlike what we've seen elsewhere in our state and across the country. We do these jobs because we strongly believe that animals in research deserve the opportunity to live the best lives possible. Stellar animal husbandry and research support are crucial in the quest for advancing human and animal health.

*Unlike* other workplaces in the state and country, jobs that involve animal care come with significant consequences for mistakes. Human error doesn't mean an ignored email or a misplaced file, an incorrect order or an unbalanced spreadsheet—it means the health and wellbeing of an animal is at risk. This is the pressure that we live with, and even under that pressure our level of competency and success in caring for our animals has given us 40+ years of accreditation through the voluntary and intensely scrutinizing organization of the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International (AAALACi). That's above and beyond all of the federal regulations that you have already heard so much about.

You've also already heard us say that we oppose the redundancy and duplication that this bill requires, but you've heard less about what it looks like for our institution to implement something like this. Creating an amalgamation of the reporting that we do to the various regulating bodies is a significant administrative and financial burden. It would likely require the overhaul or replacement of our current data and information collecting systems. It would require extensive retraining for techs to learn this new program. Knowing that this information is already captured and made public elsewhere, presents this bill as punitive. It takes valuable time, energy, and financial resources away from our animals to satisfy those that have been very open about their opposition to animal research.

If the requirements in this bill are already happening and nothing contained in the bill will improve animal care, what is the real goal here? If Representative Gomberg truly cares about the health and wellbeing of non-human primates at ONPRC, his efforts are better spent supporting the workers that care for them and championing the breakthroughs that are attributed to the animals still necessary in the pursuit of human and animal medical advancements.

I strongly oppose House Bill 2904 and urge you to not move forward with it. I am available to answer any questions that you have for me via the email address I submitted. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Haley Wolford Davis