DEB PATTERSON STATE SENATOR/SENADORA ESTATAL DISTRICT/DISTRITO 10



OREGON STATE SENATE/SENADO DEL ESTADO DE OREGON

Chair Kropf, Vice-Chairs Andersen and Wallan, and Honorable Members of the Committee,

For the record, my name is Deb Patterson, State Senator from District 10, which includes South Salem, West Salem, Monmouth, and Independence. I would like to add my support to HB 3213, which would prohibit the sale of cosmetics in Oregon that were tested on animals on or after January 1, 2024.

Animal testing of cosmetics is both inhumane and unnecessary. The animals generally used in animal tests are rabbits, guinea pigs, mice, and rats, all creatures that are capable of feeling fear and pain, which testing practices would tend to cause. Common practices involve forcing animals to ingest or absorb substances through their throats, eyes, and skin. According to the Humane Society, 500,000 animals die each year due to animal testing.

Meanwhile, animal testing of cosmetics does not even meaningfully contribute to human safety. Animal reactions are often unclear and do not predict human reactions to a substance. There are reliable methods to safely test human reaction to cosmetics without relying on animal testing; additionally, many product ingredients necessary for producing cosmetics have already been found to be safe for human use.

This legislation would discourage the future use of animal testing in cosmetic development, joining multiple states and countries in taking a stand against pointlessly inflicting pain on animals. I urge your aye vote.

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Deb Patterson