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April 26, 2023

Oregon State Legislature
Senate Committee on Business and Labor
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: HB 3213 (Neron, Thatcher, Gorsek) Prohibition on selling cosmetics that used animal testing — SUPPORT

Dear Chair Taylor, Vice Chair Bonham, and Members of the Committee:

The Animal Legal Defense Fund, the nation's preeminent legal advocacy organization for animals, and its thousands of members in Oregon write in support of HB 3213, a bill to prohibit the sale or offer for sale of cosmetics that were developed or manufactured using animal tests. Millions of rabbits, mice, rats, guinea pigs, and other animals are subjected to horrifically painful experiments and then killed in testing for cosmetic products, like makeup, shampoo, deodorant, and perfume, every year. Oregon has the chance to help put an end to this cruel practice by passing this important and timely bill.

There are numerous reasons why Oregon should support and pass a ban on the sale of cosmetics that were developed or manufactured using animal tests. Among them are that animal testing is not legally required for cosmetics to be sold in the U.S. No animals should suffer in the name of beauty, but many continue to die in experiments to test cosmetics like lipstick, shampoo, and lotion. Additionally, there is very little oversight by the federal government to protect these animals.

The Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, which is regulated by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), prohibits the sale of mislabeled and "adulterated" cosmetics, but does not require that animal tests be conducted to demonstrate that the cosmetics are safe.¹ Every year, tens of millions of animals are used in laboratory experiments in the United States and between 85 and 95% of these animals receive no protection under the federal Animal Welfare Act or any other law.² This figure is only an approximation since laboratories are not required to disclose data about the animals most often used in experimentation — rats, mice, birds, and fish.

Consumers have shown a strong interest in moving away from the outdated and cruel practice of testing cosmetics on animals. There are new proven technologies that can be used to test existing or new ingredients and, many times, these alternatives are cheaper, faster, and provide a better correlation to

¹https://www.fda.gov/cosmetics/cosmetics-labeling-regulations/summary-cosmetics-labelingrequirements#Cosmetic_Labeling

²https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalwelfare/sa_awa#:~:text=The%20following%20animals%20are%20%20not,are%20bred%20for%20use%20in

human reactions and can be therefore more reliable than animal tests. More than 1,000 cosmetics brands in North America have committed to not test final products, formulations, or ingredients on animals. Furthermore, the largest cosmetic trade association has endorsed this type of legislation at the federal level. The industry understand that consumers want to know that they are making ethical choices when purchasing cosmetics.

There is no need to test products on animals because there are thousands of ingredients with a history of safe use that companies can use. This practice is archaic and often times does not provide accurate tests of the safety of products for humans because animals physiology is different. Scientific advancements of our time have made this practice unnecessary, and Oregon can help put an end to the needless animal suffering.

It is time that Oregon join the 30 countries and 10 other U.S. states, including California and Nevada, that have passed similar bans and advance HB 3213 so Oregon residents can be assured that they are purchasing cruelty-free products and help end the unnecessary cruelty of testing cosmetics on animals. It is for these reasons that the Animal Legal Defense Fund supports the passage of HB 3213 and asks you to do the same. Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. Hauge".

Jennifer Hauge
Legislative Affairs Manager
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