

Submitter: Rodney Merrill  
On Behalf Of: myself  
Committee: House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB181

Oregon Senate Bill 181 aims to defund experiments on dogs and cats in the state. This legislation is an essential step towards modernizing research practices and promoting animal welfare. In recent years, there has been a growing awareness about the ethical treatment of animals in research. As such, supporting this bill not only aligns with current values but also encourages innovation in scientific methods.

One of the main arguments in favor of Senate Bill 181 is the ethical concern surrounding the use of animals in experiments. Dogs and cats are sentient beings, capable of feeling pain and distress. Subjecting these animals to harmful experiments for the sake of research raises important moral questions. Many people believe that it is unethical to inflict suffering on animals when alternative methods exist. Organizations such as the Humane Society and PETA have long advocated for humane research practices. By supporting Senate Bill 181, we recognize the need to treat animals with respect and compassion.

Moreover, defunding experiments on dogs and cats can lead to significant advancements in scientific research. Many researchers are now turning to innovative alternatives, such as computer modeling and in vitro testing. These methods can provide more accurate results without the ethical dilemmas associated with animal testing. For instance, researchers have developed advanced simulations that mimic human biology, allowing for better predictions of how new drugs may affect humans. By focusing on these alternatives, we can enhance the quality of research while also adhering to ethical standards.

Another crucial aspect of this bill is the potential to save taxpayer money. Funding experiments on dogs and cats can be an expensive endeavor. With the ongoing advancements in technology, allocating resources toward outdated practices may not be the best use of public funds. By redirecting these funds to more promising and humane research methods, we can optimize our investments in healthcare and scientific exploration.

In conclusion, supporting Oregon Senate Bill 181 to defund experiments on dogs and cats is a critical step toward ensuring ethical treatment of animals and promoting modern research practices. By embracing alternative methods, we can maintain scientific progress without compromising our moral obligations. The bill reflects changing societal values regarding animal welfare and demonstrates a commitment to innovation in scientific research. Ultimately, it is our responsibility to advocate for

just and humane treatment of all living beings, paving the way for a future that respects both science and ethics.