

Submitter: Melissa Peterson

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB181

I believe the primate research lab at OHSU should be closed because the use of animals as research subjects is inherently cruel and ethically indefensible. Nonhuman primates are highly sentient beings, capable of feeling pain, fear, and emotional distress. They form complex social bonds and display intelligence and self-awareness—traits that demand our moral consideration. Subjecting them to invasive procedures, confinement, and psychological stress for the sake of human benefit is wrong, and treats them as tools rather than as living beings with rights and dignity. As a society that claims to value compassion and scientific progress, we must seek alternatives to animal testing that do not rely on the suffering of others.