

Submitter: Chelsea Davis
On Behalf Of: Animal Rights Collective Portland
Committee: House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB181

Chair Representative Thuy Tran, Vice Chairs Representative Dacia Grayber and Representative Rick Lewis, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 181, which prohibits research facilities from using public funds to directly finance medically unnecessary laboratory research on dogs or cats that falls under pain and distress categories classified as D or E by the United States Department of Agriculture.

SB 181 is a commonsense, compassionate, and fiscally responsible measure. It aligns our public spending with the values of the vast majority of Americans—people who believe that our treatment of animals should be guided by both ethics and necessity.

Pain category D and E experiments often involve procedures that cause significant pain, distress, or harm to animals, sometimes without the use of pain relief. When such experiments are medically unnecessary, they are not only ethically indefensible but also an irresponsible use of taxpayer dollars.

Dogs and cats are beloved companion animals. The idea that they may be subjected to painful, non-therapeutic experiments funded by public money is deeply troubling to the public. This bill recognizes that, while scientific advancement is vital, it must not come at the cost of basic humane standards—especially when the research lacks a justified medical purpose.

SB 181 does not impede legitimate biomedical research. It simply draws a line where most people agree it should be: against publicly funding unnecessary and harmful experimentation on animals that are part of our families and communities.

This bill supports a shift toward more modern, ethical, and human-relevant research models, and it ensures that taxpayer dollars are directed to science that respects both human and animal welfare.

I respectfully urge the committee to pass SB 181. Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to responsible and humane research practices.

Sincerely,

Chelsea Davis

Director of Animal Rights Collective Portland (ARCPDX)