

Submitter: Mikalah Singer

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB181

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. My name is Mikalah Singer, I'm an attorney, and Oregon resident. I support Senate Bill 181 in its effort to end animal experimentation using dogs and cats but believe there is an opportunity to make this bill much stronger by including primates and a shutdown of the Oregon National Primate Research Center.

Despite the picture that OHSU tries to paint of the monkey lab, as someone who has been to the facility, even the parts they show you during the carefully curated visitors tour are confining and antiquated. This tour does not include the inside where animals are subjected the cruel experiments including feeding macaques THC before impregnating them, taking the babies, and dissecting them—experiments which OHSU would like you to think is the only way we can advance medicine despite us already knowing that THC during pregnancy can harm fetal development.

OHSU often likes to boast about developing cures for humans, but the reality is experiments in primates often do not translate to humans and 95% of drugs that prove safe and effective in animals do not work in people. While I was a postdoctoral fellow at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, I spent a lot of time learning about alternatives to animal testing, including human-based organoids and organs-on-a-chip. Technology that matches human biology is the future of healthcare and we do not need to keep breeding and killing monkeys to get us there. Please support adding an amendment to this bill with a deadline for ending monkey experiments at the ONPRC, so we can end the cruelty and focus on human-based research. Thank you