

**Senate Bill 386**  
**Keeping Oregon's World Class Researchers and Their Families Safe**



The Oregon National Primate Research Center (ONPRC) at OHSU's West Campus has world-class research programs in neuroscience, pathology & immunology, and reproductive sciences. Our researchers, technicians, and veterinarians, are working to find treatments and cures to deadly and costly diseases. In the past several years alone they have:

- Uncovered new avenues for fighting AIDS in infants who contract the disease from their mothers.
- Developed a vaccine that shows promise in preventing AIDS, will likely move into human trials in 2016.
- Developed a new gene therapy technique that could someday prevent devastating genetic mutations from being passed from mothers to their children.

**THE RESEARCHER SAFETY LAW:** The Oregon National Primate Research Center at OHSU has world-class research programs. However, it is very difficult to attract or retain the best researchers if they are not safe. That is why Oregon has the Researcher Safety Law.

After more than a decade of successful implementation, increased safety for researchers and their families, and improvements in the process for public record requests, Oregon Health & Science University is seeking to lift the sunset on the law that protects the safety of OHSU's research community.

**WHAT THE LAW DOES:** The Research Safety Law is a safety statute that provides crucial protections for researchers, their families and their colleagues without jeopardizing public transparency.

**HOW IT PROTECTS RESEARCHERS & THEIR FAMILIES:** When the public requests information about research being conducted with primates, or on a researcher whose work includes primates, the following information is exempted:

- The name of the OHSU employee/researcher
- The home addresses of the OHSU employee/researcher
- The name/address of companies that provide support services (such as raising animals for research purposes, or supplying food or caging) for non-human primate research.

**HOW IT ENSURES PUBLIC ACCESS & TRANSPARENCY:**

The public receives all information regarding proposed or ongoing research, including:

- The specific description of the scientific proposals
- The justification for the use of animals
- Plans for the animals' well-being
- Highly detailed records on the care provided to each animal
- The terms and conditions of contracts and payments made under those contracts

**THIS LAW IS A PRUDENT RESPONSE TO VIOLENCE IN THE EXTREMIST ANIMAL RIGHTS MOVEMENT:** It helps to protect the personal safety of Oregon's research community, allowing them to work in an environment secure from intimidation and violence.

In Oregon, prior to the Researcher Safety Law's first passage in 2003, and in other places in the country, extremists have used public records requests to get the names of research personnel and connect them to specific projects. They have then used this information to fuel support for intimidating and violent acts against individuals and their families.

The Oregon Legislature has played an important role in the continued success of efforts to keep researchers and employees safe while still protecting meaningful access to public records of animal research conducted at OHSU. Over the past three years, there haven't been violent personal attacks in Oregon and the passage of SB 386 will ensure this trend continues. OHSU welcomes public inquiry and works to provide information in a timely manner.

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