

Senator Floyd Prozanski, Chair
Senator Kim Thatcher, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary

From: Oregon Friends of Shelter Animals

Date: March 18, 2019

Subject: Support for **SB 638**, Relating to the release of dogs and cats from research laboratories

Oregon Friends of Shelter Animals (OFOSA) is a non-profit foster-based animal rescue in the Portland metro area. Our mission is to rescue as many homeless, adoptable animals, restore them to health, and through adoption, find them permanent, loving homes. We believe this legislation will drive Oregonians to consider more humane sources when seeking a pet and help with the ever-concerning issue of pet overpopulation and resulting euthanasia.

We believe an open relationship between research laboratories and non-profit rescue organizations, like OFOSA, will help enable those animals not required to be euthanized to enjoy living out their lives in loving, permanent homes. We believe this is a win/win situation for the animal as well as for the workers who work in these laboratories. They will feel like they are being of benefit rather than harming these animals. People who have adopted former research animals can attest to the resilience and affection of these animals once they are given a chance to flourish in a home environment.

We urge the committee to pass **SB 638**. Thank you for this opportunity to share our testimony.