

Submitter: Natalie Ballard Strauhal

On Behalf
Of:

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

Measure: HB2904

Proponents of animal research suggest that experimenting on animals, specifically primates, will give us insights into how our bodies operate and, as such, humanity will benefit in some way. However, I question how humanity benefits by allowing research facilities to torture living beings—beings who have shown time and time again that they form attachments and have deep emotional feelings (as was the case of a monkey mother who had a stillborn baby and showed clear signs of distress) and beings who share over 90% of our DNA.

The very LEAST we should do is have more transparency in these facilities. If we are looking to better humanity, what we really should do is demonstrate our own capacity for morality and shut these centers down.

Even if we supported the idea of using, abusing, and torturing animals for the purpose of developing cures or treatments for humans, we must question how accurate the information obtained by these experiments are. Experimenters have boasted that their research on primates will result in cures for things like AIDS and malaria and yet, we don't have those cures. The reason is that the animals are different enough NOT to be effective.

Please do not let OHSU to keep operating this center in the dark—killing and torturing animals for dubious gain. Please pass HB 2904.