

Submitter: Adam Krieg

On Behalf
Of:

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

Measure: HB2904

Chair Grayber, Vice Chairs Lewis and Tran, for the record, my name is Adam Krieg and I am a faculty member at OHSU. As an Oregonian by birth and upbringing, I have had the distinct pleasure and privilege of working at OHSU and ONPRC with many excellent scientists. I am writing to express my opinion on House Bill 2904 as a private citizen. My opinions do not reflect the opinions of OHSU.

I oppose House Bill 2904 for the following reasons:

1. House Bill 2904 is redundant. The Oregon National Primate Research Center (ONPRC) is subject to oversight by the US Department of Agriculture and the National Institutes of Health. All of the requirements imposed by HB 2904 are already required and conducted on a regular basis under the direction of the USDA and NIH. The staff and researchers at OHSU go to great lengths to minimize harm and suffering while using non-human primates for their research models. Nothing in HB 2904 will accomplish anything for animal welfare that the USDA and NIH do not already require, and that the researchers at ONPRC do not already require of themselves.
2. House Bill 2904 is arbitrary and punitive. As presented in the public synopsis, the only reason for HB 2904 appears to be an attempt to extract fines for the explicit purpose of suppressing non-human primate research at ONPRC. There does not appear to be a mechanism to remediate any putative violations for the purpose of improving animal welfare. Because HB 2904 does not similarly address other issues of animal welfare in other Oregon industries, it is clear that the goal of HB 2904 is to specifically shut down ONPRC.
3. House Bill 2904 has the potential to impact animal-based agriculture in the state of Oregon. Once applied to non-human primate research, HB 2904 has the potential to be weaponized to also suppress the operations of dairies, egg-laying farms, hog farms, and cattle ranches through punitive fines.
4. House Bill 2904 is anti-science, anti-vaccine, and anti-woman. ONPRC has been a high-performing scientific research center for the past 60 years. For several reasons, non-human primate research models are the gold-standards for vaccine development, drug safety testing, and in particular, women's health research. Mouse models, human tissue culture, and computational models cannot provide adequate substitutes. Ignoring the value of non-human primates for medical research is therefore anti-science. Non-human primates are essential for testing the safety and

efficacy of vaccines before conducting human trials. Suppressing non-human primate research at ONPRC therefore suppresses our nation's ability to respond to emerging diseases, making HB 2904 anti-vaccine. The research at ONPRC also directly addresses issues of significant importance to women's health, including maternal-fetal stress responses, maternal nutrition, fertility preservation for cancer patients, and assisted reproductive technologies like in vitro fertilization. The veiled goal of HB 2904 to fine ONPRC into dissolution is therefore a direct attack on women's health research and women's health.

For all of these reasons, please join me in opposing HB 2904.

Sincerely,
Adam Krieg, Ph.D.