



THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES

April 27, 2023

Senate Labor and Business Committee
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Testimony in support of HB 3213A, *Oregon Humane Cosmetics Act*

Dear Chair Taylor and members of the Senate Labor and Business Committee,

I appreciate the opportunity to submit this written testimony on behalf of the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) and our Oregon members and supporters urging the committee to pass HB 3213A. This legislation prohibits the sale in Oregon of any cosmetic for which a new animal test was conducted or contracted by, or on behalf of, the manufacturer, or any supplier of the manufacturer. HB 3213A does contain limited exceptions that allow for animal testing under certain conditions including testing done to satisfy regulatory requirements and to address specific and serious human health concerns. Because this legislation only applies to new animal testing, everything currently on store shelves in Oregon could continue to be sold.

There is strong corporate support for ending cosmetics animal testing. HB 3213A has received letters of support from cosmetics manufacturers in the state of Oregon including Lush with stores located in Bend, Happy Valley, Portland, and two in Tigard; in addition to Urban Organics based in West Linn, SunGold Botanicals based in Philomath, Sappo Hill Soapworks based in Ashland and LUXE Heavenly Bodies based in Eagle Point.

Last Congress, federal legislators considered the Humane Cosmetics Act, bipartisan legislation to end the production and sale of animal-tested cosmetics. HSUS, Humane Society Legislative Fund, and the Personal Care Products Council (PCPC), the leading national trade association representing 90% of the U.S. cosmetics industry, joined together to support this legislation in an unprecedented agreement to bring about an end to cosmetic animal testing in the United States. In addition to PCPC, which represents approximately 600 member companies, 398 individual companies have endorsed this federal effort. This corporate support either obtained through their membership with PCPC or their individual endorsement includes 18 companies headquartered in Oregon: Amota Group (Salem); Angelina Organic Skin Care (Bend); Essential Wholesale & Labs (Portland); Ladies Biotech Corporation (Eugene); Lush (Bend, Happy Valley, Tigard, Portland); LuvBar Butter (Veneta); LUXE Heavenly Bodies (Eagle Point); Mad Hippie (Portland); Natural Plant Products, Inc. (Salem); Sappo Hill Soapworks (Ashland); Schmidt's Naturals (Portland); Spela Cosmetics (Portland); SunGold Botanicals (Philomath); Teadora (Portland); The Body Shop (Tigard, Eugene); Urban Organics (West Linn); Walgreens (40 stores

in OR) and Whole Foods Market (10 stores in OR). HB 3213A was drafted to mirror provisions found in this federal legislation.

Animal testing is cruel and not a reliable predictor of human responses. In traditional animal tests, rabbits, guinea pigs, mice and rats have substances forced down their throats, dripped into their eyes, or smeared onto their skin before they are killed. These test methods are unreliable predictors of human safety. Different species can respond differently when exposed to the same chemicals. Consequently, animal tests may under- or over-estimate real-world hazards to people. In addition, results from animal tests can be quite variable and difficult to interpret.

Animal testing for cosmetics is completely unnecessary. There are no animal testing requirements for cosmetic safety substantiation in the United States. Companies can already create great products using thousands of available ingredients that have a history of safe use and do not require new testing. For new ingredients where animal testing may currently be used, many non-animal methods have been, and continue to be, developed. Non-animal methods can combine human cell-based tests and sophisticated computer models to deliver human-relevant results at less cost and in less time than traditional animal tests.

There has been a global trend toward eliminating cosmetic animal testing. In 2018, California became the first state in the country to ban the sale of cosmetics newly tested on animals followed by Nevada and Illinois in 2019. In 2021, five additional states passed laws to prohibit the sale of animal-tested cosmetics (Virginia, Maryland, Maine, Hawaii, and New Jersey). Last year, Louisiana and New York became the ninth and tenth states to take this action. Historically, the European Union (EU) began the trend in 2013 by finalizing a ban on the sale of cosmetics tested on animals, creating the world's largest cruelty-free cosmetics marketplace. This ban compelled cosmetic companies around the world to end animal testing and invest in the development of non-animal methods instead. Forty-two countries have now passed laws to end or limit cosmetic animal testing including the member states of the EU, Australia, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Iceland, India, Israel, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, South Korea, Switzerland, Taiwan, Turkey, and the United Kingdom. Most recently, the Canadian government has included language in a budget bill to prohibit the production and sale of animal-tested cosmetics making Canada likely to be the next country to take this important step.

HSUS strongly supports HB 3213A and urges the committee to pass this legislation and make Oregon the next state to address the unnecessary cruelty of cosmetics animal testing.

Sincerely,



Vicki Katrinak
Director, Animal Research and Testing