

Dear Tom Andersen,

I am writing to respectfully seek your support for the Oregon State Diagnostic Laboratory, a critical institution in the detection and management of emerging and zoonotic diseases, including the current avian influenza outbreak and, previously, the COVID-19 pandemic.

Despite its vital role, the laboratory faces significant challenges due to aging infrastructure and outdated equipment. To continue its pivotal work in safeguarding animal health and by extension, public health, it is in urgent need of financial assistance.

The laboratory is a proud member of the National Animal Health Laboratory Network and holds accreditation from the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians. During the COVID-19 pandemic, it contributed significantly by processing over 300,000 human test samples. It remains on the front lines today, testing for avian flu across animal populations and monitoring for other serious diseases such as chronic wasting disease.

I respectfully urge you to support the Oregon State Diagnostic Laboratory in its mission. With your help, we can ensure that its dedicated faculty and staff continue to protect the health of animals, their families, and the broader environment.

Sincerely,
Latifat Adekunle.