

DEFENDERS OF ANIMALS, INC.

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In favor of H-5865

March 8, 2025

**House Health and Human Services
Rhode Island State House
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903**

Dear Committee Members:

On behalf of our members, supporters, and board members, I am respectfully requesting your support for House Bill No. H-5865. Introduced by Representatives Lima, and cosponsored by Representatives J. Brien, Serpa, Fellela, O'Brien, Potter, Kislak, Hull, Knight, and Cruz.

“This act would ban a person or manufacturer from selling or offering for sale in this state any cosmetic that was developed or manufactured using animal testing, if the test was conducted or contracted by the manufacturer or any supplier of the manufacturer on or after January 1, 2026.”

There are humane reasons why Eight states ban the sale of animal-tested cosmetics, including New Jersey, California, Nevada, Illinois, Virginia, Maryland, Maine, and Hawaii.

There are humane reasons why 41 countries also passed bans on animal cosmetics testing.

One question needs to be asked is this: Do cosmetic companies have to test on animals regarding cosmetics?

The Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act does not specifically require the use of animals in testing cosmetics for safety, nor does it subject cosmetics to FDA premarket approval.

China is the only country that requires cosmetics to be tested on animals.

Rhode Island should not be part of the cruelty that goes on regarding cosmetic testing on animals.

Rhode Island does, in fact, need to join New Jersey, California, Nevada, Illinois, Virginia, Maryland, Maine, and Hawaii and Ban the sale of cosmetics developed/manufactured using animal testing by voting in favor of H-5865.

Sincerely yours,

Dennis Tabella

**Dennis Tabella
Director**