



## MARYLAND VOTES FOR ANIMALS

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March 10, 2025

To: House Government and Operations Committee  
From: Lisa Radov, President and Chair, Maryland Votes for Animals, Inc.  
Re: Animal Testing and Research - Alternative Nonanimal Test Methods -HB 1448-  
Support

Chair Pena- Melnyk, Vice Chair Cullison, members of the Health and Government Operations Committee, my name is Lisa Radov. I am the President and Chair of Maryland Votes for Animals. We champion humane legislation to improve the lives of animals in Maryland. Speaking for Maryland Votes for Animals, our Board of Directors, and our members across Maryland, I respectfully request that the Health and Government Operations Committee vote favorably for Animal Testing and Research - Alternative Nonanimal Test Methods– HB 1448.

This bill would prohibit certain research facilities in the State from using a traditional animal test method if an alternative nonanimal test method has received certain approval or the requirement to use a traditional animal test method is waived; requiring certain research facilities to conduct testing using traditional animal test methods in a certain manner; requiring certain research facilities to annually submit a report to the Attorney General regarding the test methods used; requiring the Attorney General to make the reports publicly available; requiring the Attorney General to enforce this Act; and generally relating to the use of alternative nonanimal test methods.

When a non-animal alternative test is available it is not guaranteed that the transition to the newer and more humane alternative gets implemented. Change is not always easy for large institutions, so the reality is that such animal tests can persist and even increase long after suitable alternative methods are available. Cruelty Free International has created a list of 10 regulatory animal tests that are still conducted in the US despite having valid non animal replacements. Such animal tests are long overdue for replacement. HB 1448 will prohibit outdated tests from being used or continuing to be used in Maryland and help to complete the replacement process with the goal of minimizing the unnecessary suffering of animals when there are effective alternatives.

In closing, I would like to thank Vice Chair Cullison for her sponsorship of HB 1448 and ask the committee to give this bill a favorable report.