



The Honorable Brian J. Feldman
Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

February 11, 2026

RE: Support SB 423

Dear Chair Feldman and honorable members of the Environment and Transportation Committee:

On behalf of the Institute for In Vitro Sciences (IIVS), I am writing to urge a favorable report on SB 423, legislation that would require facilities testing products such as household cleaners, drugs, pesticides, vaccines, and chemicals to use approved non-animal methods when available, prohibits particularly cruel laboratory practices, and establishes transparency through reporting requirements on animal use in testing.

IIVS is non-profit research and testing laboratory based in Gaithersburg, Maryland that is dedicated to the advancement of *in vitro* (non-animal) methods worldwide. Founded in 1997, IIVS is unique in its position as a high-quality testing laboratory, while also offering technical, educational, and validation resources to advance the field. Non-animal alternative test methods and strategies can provide product and chemical safety assessments that are more predictive of human outcomes, and often represent the current state-of-the-art advanced science available. IIVS provides assistance and training to government agencies to help them more efficiently implement these alternative methods and reduce their reliance on animals.

We have a large portfolio of non-animal methods designed for the cosmetics, personal care, household products, specialty chemicals, consumer products and pharmaceutical industries. IIVS helps these industries to choose the appropriate *in vitro* assays needed to inform decision-making. SB 423 simply ensures that companies are using these types of test methods (and other alternatives) rather than animal tests as soon as regulatory agencies have indicated their acceptance. This legislative support for next generation science is key for speeding the change necessary to routinely use these methods in regulatory contexts. The currently available, regulatorily accepted methods have undergone extensive validation efforts to show they are predictive of human outcomes. They are reliable and robust and predictive of human outcomes and this bill will pave the way for greater use of the current scientific technology.

Maryland led the nation by establishing the first state-funded grant program to support scientists developing non-animal research methods. This forward-looking investment strengthens Maryland's standing as a national hub for biotechnology innovation. However, funding innovation alone is not

enough. To fully realize the promise of these modern scientific tools, Maryland must take the next step and require industry to adopt non-animal methods that are approved by the relevant agencies, ensuring that outdated animal testing is replaced with more accurate and effective approaches.

In addition, strong reporting requirements demonstrate that Maryland's research ecosystem operates with accountability and integrity: qualities that matter to investors, grant-makers, and global partners.

Thank you for your support of SB 423 to make Maryland a leader in utilizing non-animal methods in research.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amanda Ulrey".

Amanda Ulrey, RQAP-GLP

President

Institute for In Vitro Sciences, Inc.