



Formerly called the Humane
Society of the United States

Humane Veterinary Medical Alliance

1255 23rd St. NW, Suite 450
Washington, DC 20037
202-452-1100

humaneworld.org/HumaneVMA

February 17, 2026

Maryland Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
Two West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: **Veterinary Support for SB 422** Research Facilities and Testing Facilities That Use Animals -
Adoption and Reporting Requirements

Dear Chair Feldman, Vice-Chair Kagan and members of the committee:

I am writing on behalf of the Humane Veterinary Medical Alliance (HumaneVMA), a national organization of more than 8,000 veterinary professional members (including 60 Maryland veterinarians) with a focus on the health and welfare of all animals, including those used in research. We strongly support SB 422.

SB 422 strengthens protections for dogs and cats used in research. It reinforces compliance with Maryland's 2018 Beagle Bill by requiring annual reporting on the number of animals used and adopted. Additionally, the bill enhances transparency by requiring more comprehensive reporting on animal use in Maryland facilities, providing the public with a clearer understanding of research practices in the state. This legislation expands animal research reporting and adoption requirements to include testing facilities and specifies animal research facilities' annual reporting requirements and subsequent fines for violations of these requirements.

SB 422 improves transparency and provides greater accountability in animal research in Maryland. The HumaneVMA respectfully encourages the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee to support SB 422.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carrie B. Waters".

Carrie B. Waters, DVM, PhD, JD, DACVIM
Maryland State Representative
Humane Veterinary Medical Alliance (HumaneVMA)