



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 10, 2026

RE: Support SB 423

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

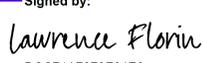
I am writing on behalf of Hesperos, Inc. to express our strong support for SB 423, legislation that requires facilities testing products such as household cleaners, drugs, pesticides, vaccines, and chemicals to use approved non-animal methods when available, prohibit particularly cruel laboratory practices, and establish transparency through reporting requirements on animal use in testing.

Hesperos has been a leader in Human-on-a-Chip® in vitro systems since 2015, with the goal of accelerating drug discovery by providing safety and efficacy data for chemicals and novel therapeutics used in the chemical, pharmaceutical, cosmetic, and food industries. Our work demonstrates that non-animal, human-relevant technologies are not only feasible, but essential to improving scientific accuracy and innovation.

Maryland deserves recognition for leading the nation in establishing the first state-funded grant program to support scientists developing non-animal research methods. This investment reinforces Maryland's reputation as a national leader in biotechnology and scientific innovation. By taking this step, the state has laid a critical foundation for the future of more accurate, human-relevant science. To fully deliver on that promise, Maryland now has the opportunity to build on this leadership by ensuring that, once non-animal methods are approved by the relevant agencies, industry is required to use them, ensuring outdated animal testing is replaced with more effective and reliable approaches.

We urge your support of SB 423 to help make Maryland a leader in the advancement and adoption of non-animal test methods for research.

Sincerely,

Signed by:

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Lawrence Florin
Chief Executive Officer