



The Honorable Marc Korman
Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee
251 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

February 10, 2026

RE: Support HB 666

Dear Chair Korman 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 HB 666, 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 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.

At this point in time, the field has a large portfolio of non-animal methods available to test cosmetics, personal care and household products, specialty chemicals, consumer products, and pharmaceuticals. IIVS helps companies to choose the appropriate in vitro assays needed to inform decision-making. HB 666 simply ensures that companies are using these types of test methods 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 reliable, robust, and predictive of human outcomes. This bill will pave the way for greater use of the current scientific technology. It may be surprising to hear that new, more advanced methods are not automatically used by companies, but the reality is that, for a variety of reasons, it is often easier to continue using older methods. This bill motivates change and ensures non-animal methods overcome systemic barriers.

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 HB 666 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.