



February 1, 2018

Dear Members of the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs:

My organization, Green Mountain Animal Defenders, is very interested in the bill S. 161, which was introduced by Senator Tim Ashe. It would end the use of live animals for product safety testing when a relevant and equivalent non-animal alternative is available. I am writing to ask for your support of this humane bill.

The use of non-animal test methods are already in the mainstream for the cosmetics, personal care and chemical products industries, which rely on the more predictive non-animal test methods for evaluating product safety. This demonstrates that ending the use of animals for safety testing will not negatively impact human health.

Multiple opinion polls show that the American public overwhelmingly supports alternatives to testing cosmetics on animals. And a majority believes that testing cosmetics on animals is unethical.

Banning animal tests for cosmetics will also allow the cosmetics that are made in Vermont to be competitive in a global market that increasingly requires that only non-animal tests be used.

Please help Vermont be a leader in adopting measures to eliminate the cruel and unnecessary use of animals for testing by taking steps to move S. 161 forward, either as a stand alone bill or included in another bill.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Sharon MacNair, president

