

Simon Hebert
Animal Refuge League of Greater Portland

Dear Committee On Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business,

I am writing to express my concern that in Maine we continue to sell cosmetics tested on animals, even though such procedures are both cruel and unnecessary. By allowing these products to be sold in our state we are effectively supporting the animal testing of cosmetics.

The testing of products on animals is completely unnecessary because viable alternatives are available. Instead of measuring how long it takes a chemical to burn the cornea of a rabbit's eye, manufacturers can now drop that chemical onto cornea-like 3D tissue structures produced from human cells. Likewise, human skin cultures can be grown and purchased for skin irritation testing.

Modern non-animal methods are available for the most cosmetic safety issues, and have been shown to better predict human responses in the real-world than the animal tests they replace.

I strongly urge you to support LD1551 to end the sale of animal tested cosmetics in Maine.

Sincerely,
Simon Hebert
Board Member
Animal Refuge League of Greater Portland