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I support L.D. 1551 that would end the sale of animal-tested cosmetics in Maine as testing cosmetics on animals is cruel! Having substances forced down throats, dripped into eyes or smeared onto the skin of animals for weeks or months at a time before they are killed is shocking and inhumane. Testing on animals is absolutely unnecessary today as companies such as Thrive Causemetics (considered a luxury brand), Tom's of Maine, LUSH, Aveda, Bath and Body Works, Ilia Beauty, Pacifica, NYX Cosmetics, and many others already create innovative products that not only are not tested on animals but use clean ingredients and some use no animal products in their ingredients at all. Who wants to apply makeup on their skin that needs to be tested on animals first to see if it is safe to use? Not me!

According to the Humane Society of the United States non-animal alternatives for testing "can combine human cell-based tests and complex computer models to deliver accurate results specific to human health effects". This is a safer alternative to testing on animals where results can be quite variable and difficult to interpret.

L.D. 1551 only applies to new animal testing that was conducted or contracted by the manufacturer or any supplier of the manufacturer on or after November 1, 2021. Cosmetics currently on store shelves will not be impacted.

As people learn more about the cosmetic industry through the internet, especially the younger generation, demand has increased to provide safer and healthier ingredients in cosmetics and to end animal testing, according to Reuters and the Humane Society of the United States. It is time for Maine to join California, Illinois, Nevada and Virginia and numerous countries around the world and ban the sale of cosmetics newly tested on animals.

Thank you.