

# Support SB 1249:

## The California Cruelty Free Cosmetics Act



**Summary:** Prohibits the sale of any cosmetic newly tested on animals or containing ingredients tested on animals.

For more than 50 years animals have been used in painful tests to assess the safety of chemicals used in cosmetics products. Today modern approaches that are cheaper, faster, and can better predict human reactions are widely available and more than 30 countries around the world, including the European Union, now require their use.

California has long been a leader in promoting modern alternatives to animal tests. In 2000, California became the first state to make it unlawful to use animals for testing when an appropriate alternative method is available. In 2014, the California Legislature passed the *Cruelty Free Cosmetics Resolution* urging Congress to prohibit animal testing for cosmetics and to phase out marketing animal-tested cosmetics. Once again, California can lead the way in ensuring a cruelty-free cosmetics market for its citizens by barring any new ingredients or cosmetics that are tested on animals from the market.

### Key points:

- To streamline implementation, SB 1249 prevents the sale of cosmetics *newly* tested on animals. The Act allows for two exceptions to the ban.
  - Where animal testing was done as a requirement of the Federal Drug Administration or Department of Toxic Substance Control and there is no alternative method to evaluate a substantiated and serious specific human health problem associated with the cosmetic or component thereof that is in wide use and cannot be replaced with another cosmetic or component thereof capable of performing a similar function.
  - Where animal testing is conducted to comply with a formal requirement of a foreign regulatory authority and where such foreign regulatory authority requirements were in place prior to January 1, 2020. This exception shall sunset on January 1, 2023.
- Most animal testing is done on ingredients in cosmetics products. These tests are painful and outdated.
- Modern non-animal tests for cosmetics safety are accurate, efficient, and affordable. These tests ensure the safety of cosmetics and their ingredients without animals. Many have been approved by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development as official Test Guidelines.
- Non-animal approaches use engineered three-dimensional human skin tissues or other types of cells and sophisticated computer models. In addition, companies can utilize the hundreds of thousands of ingredients for which safety data is already available.
- Multiple polls show that US consumers support ending animal testing for cosmetics, and a 2015 Nielsen poll found that “not tested on animals” was the most important consumer packaging claim for respondents across all age groups.
- The federal *Humane Cosmetics Act* would end the sale of animal tested cosmetics in the US, has broad bipartisan support and has been endorsed by over 150 cosmetic companies of all sizes.



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