

1 S.16

2 Introduced by Senator Ashe

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Animal cruelty; animal testing

6 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to prohibit the  
7 use of vertebrate animals in nonmedical research testing if there is an  
8 alternative test method available that does not use vertebrate animals and  
9 provides equivalent or better scientific information than the animal test it  
10 replaces.

11 An act relating to alternatives to animal testing

12 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

13 Sec. 1. 20 V.S.A. chapter 196 is added to read:

14 CHAPTER 196. ALTERNATIVES TO ANIMAL TESTING

15 § 4101. DEFINITIONS

16 As used in this chapter:

17 (1) "Alternative method" means:

18 (A) a test method or strategy that does not use animals and provides  
19 information of equivalent or better scientific quality and relevance than an  
20 animal test; or

1           (B) if there is no test method or strategy that meets the criteria of  
2           subdivision (A) of this subsection, a test method or strategy that uses fewer  
3           animals or uses animals in a manner that causes the animals less suffering.

4           (2) “Animal” means a living vertebrate nonhuman animal.

5           (3) “Animal test method” means a process or procedure using animals to  
6           obtain information on the characteristics of a chemical or agent or the  
7           biological effect of exposure to a chemical or agent under specified conditions.

8           (4) “Contract testing facility” means any partnership, corporation,  
9           association, or other legal relationship that tests chemicals, ingredients, product  
10           formulations, or products in Vermont.

11           (5) “ICCVAM” means the Interagency Coordinating Committee on the  
12           Validation of Alternative Methods, a federal committee operating as a  
13           mechanism for recommending appropriate and valid test methods to relevant  
14           federal agencies.

15           (6) “Manufacturer” means any partnership, corporation, association, or  
16           other legal relationship that produces chemicals, ingredients, product  
17           formulations, or products in Vermont.

18           (7) “Medical research”:

19           (A) means research related to:

1                    (i) the causes, diagnosis, treatment, control, or prevention of  
2                    physical or mental conditions, diseases, and impairments of humans and  
3                    animals; or

4                    (ii) the development of biomedical products, devices, or drugs as  
5                    defined in 21 U.S.C. § 321(g)(1); and

6                    (B) does not include the testing of an ingredient that was formerly  
7                    used in a drug, tested with traditional animal methods to substantiate its safety  
8                    for human use, and is now proposed for use in a product other than a  
9                    biomedical product, medical device, or drug.

10                    § 4102. ALTERNATIVE TEST METHODS; REQUIRED USE

11                    (a) Manufacturers and contract testing facilities shall not use animal test  
12                    methods for which an alternative method is available.

13                    (b) This section shall not apply to any animal test performed for the  
14                    purpose of medical research.

15                    (c) A manufacturer or contract testing facility that violates subsection (a) of  
16                    this section shall be assessed a civil penalty of not more than \$5,000.00 per  
17                    violation.

18                    Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

19                    This act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.