

<u>WWW.LOHV.ORG</u> MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT FOR S4839A/A5653A Prohibits the manufacture or sale of cosmetics tested on animals

Animals are used in several ways in the cosmetics industry to test the safety of ingredients. Individual ingredients or finished products are tested on animals such as rabbits, mice, guinea pigs, rats and dogs. These products can be dripped in their eyes, rubbed on their skin, or fed to the animals to determine if there are any negative effects. Aside from the pain, extreme suffering and loss of life, animal testing can be misleading.

Alternative ways to test cosmetics that don't involve animals use organisms like bacteria, tissues and cells from humans, computer models or chemical methods. These alternative tests are often quicker, cheaper, and more reliable and accurate than animal testing.

According to Humane Society International, 41 countries including Mexico, 10 states in Brazil and 7 in the U.S. (California, Hawaii, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Nevada and Virginia) have passed laws banning cosmetics animal testing. Three more states in the U.S. (New Jersey, New York and Rhode Island) are considering legislation and a federal bill is awaiting reintroduction in the U.S. Congress.

THE LEAGUE OF HUMANE VOTERS® OF NEW YORK STRONGLY SUPPORTS THIS BILL.

Sincerely,

Hung Terris

Jeffery Termini

League of Humane Voters® of New York State

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Cc: Assembly Member Linda Rosenthal, Sponsor

Assembly Member Harry B. Bronson, Chair, Economic Development Committee

Senator Allesandra Biaggi, Sponsor

Senator Kevin Thomas, Chair, Consumer Protection Committee

Speaker Carl E. Heastie

Assembly Majority Leader Crystal Peoples-Stokes

Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins

The Mission of the League of Humane Voters® (LOHV) *is to create, unite, and strengthen local political action committees, which work to enact animal-friendly legislation and elect candidates for public office who will use their votes and influence for animal protection.*