

Appropriations: Support Tracking the Use of Animals in NIH Research

Alcee L. Hastings

From: Alcee Lamar Hastings

Sent By: Cory.Maks-Solomon@mail.house.gov

Date:Friday, March 26, 2021

Request for Signature(s)

To join this appropriations letter, fill out this form by COB April 8th.

Dear Colleague:

We invite you to join us in a letter to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies requesting report language instructing NIH to finally collect and publish the number of animals used in agency-funded experiments. This effort is crucial to ensuring that research and testing are transparent and accountable to taxpayers.

While the governments of other countries—including the United Kingdom, Canada, and the entire European Union—collect and publish detailed information on how many animals are used in research and testing, the United States lags far behind. Estimates of the number of animals used each year in U.S. laboratories vary widely—from 10 million to 110 million—and the vast majority of those animals are used by federally funded labs. The drastic difference in estimates underscores the clear need for accurate reporting.

The scientific community has a stated commitment to the “three Rs” of replacement, reduction, and refinement of the use of animals in biomedical research. Integral to that commitment are the accurate counting of animals used in research and testing and the accurate reporting of NIH funding dedicated to grants involving animals. We are unable to measure our progress toward advancing the three Rs without an accurate count of the number of animals utilized each year.

We urge you to join us in this important effort to track the use of animals in NIH research, the first step toward eventually reducing their use in situations where alternatives exist. To sign on, fill out this form by COB April 8th. If you have any questions, please contact Cory Maks-Solomon (Cory.Maks-Solomon@mail.house.gov) in Congressman Hastings’s office.

Sincerely,

Alcee L. Hastings

Member of Congress

Vern Buchanan

Member of Congress

Earl Blumenauer

Member of Congress

Brian Fitzpatrick

Member of Congress