
Ask Your Representatives to End Dog Testing

A ready-to-send letter for concerned citizens — personalize, sign, and send to your Senator, Representative, or federal agency.

Dear [Senator / Representative / Secretary / White House Official],

I am writing as a constituent, taxpayer, and someone who cares deeply about both scientific progress and the humane treatment of animals. Like many Americans, I have watched with concern as thousands of dogs — most of them beagles — continue to be used in laboratory research, even as modern alternatives have made such testing increasingly unnecessary.

What the Science — and the Evidence — Tell Us

The recent release of more than 1,500 beagles from a research breeding facility brought national attention to a reality that scientists and animal welfare advocates have long documented: dogs are sentient beings with emotional memory, trauma responses, and the capacity for long-term psychological harm. Their release was not the end of their suffering — it was the beginning of a costly, resource-intensive recovery.

The true cost of dog testing does not end at the laboratory door. It is transferred — to rescue organizations, to fosters, to donors, and ultimately to taxpayers — in the form of long-term rehabilitation that strains an already overwhelmed system.

A Growing Global Consensus

Nations around the world are updating their laws to reflect this understanding. Brazil has legally recognized dogs and cats as sentient beings capable of feeling pain and emotion. In the United States, the Oregon Supreme Court has similarly acknowledged that dogs are sentient creatures whose suffering matters under the law. Yet thousands of beagles remain confined in U.S. research facilities — a gap between our values and our policies that deserves urgent attention.

Modern Science Has Better Tools

We now have New Approach Methodologies (NAMs) that model human biology directly and, in many cases, outperform animal tests for predicting human outcomes:

- **Organs-on-Chips** — replicate human organ function and detect toxicities that animal tests miss
- **3D human tissue cultures** — outperform animal skin and organ tests in multiple validated studies

- **PBPK (physiologically based pharmacokinetic) modeling** — predicts how specific human bodies absorb and process compounds with greater precision than animal proxies
- **In vitro and in chemico assays** — eliminate the need for whole-animal exposure
- **Human microdosing** — provides safe, direct human metabolic data

These methods are already in use at leading research institutions and pharmaceutical companies. The FDA has encouraged their adoption, and the FDA Modernization Act 2.0 removed the longstanding requirement for animal testing in drug development.

What I Am Asking For

I am respectfully asking for a clear federal plan to:

- **Redirect federal research funding toward NAMs and away from dog testing**
- **Establish phase-out timelines for dog use where validated alternatives already exist**
- **Require transparency from federally funded laboratories that continue to use dogs**
- **Prioritize human-relevant science across all federal research programs**
- **Support the development, validation, and regulatory acceptance of NAMs**

This is a moment where science, ethics, fiscal responsibility, and public values align. It is time for federal policy to reflect what the science — and the public — already know. I hope you will act on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves.

Sincerely,

Your Name

Your Address

Your Email

Feel free to share this letter. Send it to your U.S. Senator, Representative, or relevant federal agency — find your representatives at congress.gov/members/find-your-member