

May 5, 2021

Assemblymember Linda Rosenthal
State Capitol
LOB 844
Albany, NY 12248

Senator Alessandra Biaggi
State Capitol
LOB 905
Albany, NY 12247

RE: Support for A5653A / S4839A– New York Cruelty Free Cosmetics Act

Dear Assemblymember Rosenthal and Senator Biaggi:

The undersigned local, state and national organizations are deeply committed to ensuring that New York pursues the highest standards of animal welfare and protection. Our state has a long history of being a national leader in passing legislation to improve the status and treatment of animals in society, including animals used in product testing. It is time for New York to lead again by becoming one of the first states to end the sale of new animal tested cosmetics by passing the New York Cruelty Free Cosmetics Act.

For more than 50 years, animals have been used in painful tests to assess the safety of certain chemicals used in cosmetics products. Today there is no reason for animals to be harmed for the sake of cosmetics. Not only are there thousands of available ingredients that have a history of safe use and do not require new testing that can be used cosmetic products, but many nonanimal methods have been, and continue to be, developed for testing brand new ingredients.

The New York Cruelty Free Cosmetics Act will prohibit the sale of any cosmetic product that has been tested on animals after the date January 1, 2022 thus bringing New York line with nearly 40 countries and a handful of states that now prohibit the sale of new animal-tested cosmetics. Moreover, it would create tremendous momentum for passage of federal legislation that is largely based on the state-level language that is reflected in this bill.

Thank you for authoring A5653A / S4839A to ensure that animals are not harmed for the sake of cosmetics products in New York and beyond. Please call on us to help provide support as this bill advances through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

Monica Engebretson
Head of Public Affairs, N. America
Cruelty Free International



Gwen Kaiser
Co-Director
Reenies Rabbit Rescue



Allie Feldman Taylor
President
Voters for Animal Rights



Bill Ketzer
Senior Director
ASPCA



Kathleen Schatzmann
Senior Legislative Affairs Manager
Animal Legal Defense Fund



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DEFENSE FUND**

Jane Hoffman
President
Mayor's Alliance for NYC's Animals



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President
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Susan Brandt
Founder
Rational Animal



Debbie DiBernardo
Board President
Hi Tor Animal Care Center



Nina Jackel
President
Lady Freethinker



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Jen Woodard-Reynolds
Executive Director
Stray Haven Humane Society and SPCA



Julie Massa
Wild Animals Campaigner
In Defense Of Animals



Lynne Meloccaro
Executive Director
Dutchess County SPCA



Vicki Mosgrove
Executive Director
Finger Lakes SPCA



Gina Carbonari
Executive Director
Ulster County SPCA



Kimberly LaRussa
Public Relations Manager
Ten Lives Club



Aysha Akhtar, MD, MPH
President and CEO
Center for Contemporary Sciences



Renee Earl
President
Fulton County Regional SPCA, Inc.



Anita A. Vitullo
President
Staffworks



Meredith Blanchard
Senior Manager of Advocacy and Policy
National Antivivisection Society

