



## **SUPPORT SB640 – An Act Concerning the Use of Animals in Product Testing – Sen. Mark C. Montigny (D)**

Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources & Agriculture

### **WHAT THIS BILL DOES:**

This bill prohibits manufacturers or contract test facilities from using traditional animal testing when alternative testing methods or strategies exist. It defines alternative test methods and allows for the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health to promulgate regulations to implement and enforce standards for alternative test methods to ensure safety and comparable validity of results to traditional methods. No provision of this subsection shall be construed to apply to a test method conducted for the purposes of medical research.

### **WHY YOU SHOULD SUPPORT THIS BILL:**

Many animals suffer and die each year during product testing. Animal testing does not necessarily ensure safety as specie differences can give different results so human safety is not necessarily guaranteed. Our science/technology efforts are moving very quickly to faster alternative methods of testing which will cause less suffering of laboratory animals.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

**Massachusetts Federation of Dog Clubs and Responsible Dog Owners**

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01/30/25

**SENATE . . . . . No. 640**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Mark C. Montigny***

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act promoting humane cosmetics and other household products by limiting the use of animal testing.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Mark C. Montigny</i>	<i>Second Bristol and Plymouth</i>	
<i>John F. Keenan</i>	<i>Norfolk and Plymouth</i>	<i>1/29/2025</i>
<i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>	<i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i>	<i>2/2/2025</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	<i>2/3/2025</i>
<i>Marcus S. Vaughn</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>	<i>2/5/2025</i>
<i>James K. Hawkins</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>	<i>2/7/2025</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>2/10/2025</i>
<i>Vanna Howard</i>	<i>17th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/14/2025</i>
<i>Adam Gómez</i>	<i>Hampden</i>	<i>2/20/2025</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/26/2025</i>
<i>Paul W. Mark</i>	<i>Berkshire, Hampden, Franklin and Hampshire</i>	<i>2/27/2025</i>
<i>Adam J. Scanlon</i>	<i>14th Bristol</i>	<i>3/4/2025</i>
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>First Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	<i>3/10/2025</i>
<i>Lydia Edwards</i>	<i>Third Suffolk</i>	<i>3/13/2025</i>
<i>Manny Cruz</i>	<i>7th Essex</i>	<i>3/19/2025</i>
<i>Bradley H. Jones, Jr.</i>	<i>20th Middlesex</i>	<i>4/3/2025</i>

**SENATE . . . . . No. 640**

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By Mr. Montigny, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 640) of Mark C. Montigny, John F. Keenan, Joanne M. Comerford, Michael O. Moore and other members of the General Court for legislation to promote humane cosmetics and other household products by limiting the use of animal testing. Environment and Natural Resources.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 1424 OF 2023-2024.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court  
(2025-2026)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act promoting humane cosmetics and other household products by limiting the use of animal testing.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 140 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after  
2 Section 174H the following new section:-

3 Section 174I.

4 (a) As used in this section, the following words shall have the following meanings unless  
5 the context clearly requires otherwise:

6 "Alternative test method", a process or procedure implemented to obtain information  
7 regarding the biological effects of exposure to a chemical or agent that does not employ the use  
8 of an animal and results in the gathering of valid information that would otherwise be acquired

9 through the use of a traditional animal test method, including, but not limited to, computational  
10 toxicology, bioinformatics, high-throughput screening methods, chemical substances testing,  
11 tiered testing methods, in vitro studies, and systems biology.

12 “Commissioner”, the commissioner of the department of public health.

13 "Contract testing facility", a partnership, corporation, association, or other legal  
14 relationship that tests chemicals, ingredients, product formulations, or products.

15 "Manufacturer", a partnership, corporation, association, or other legal relationship that  
16 produces products, product formulations, chemicals, or ingredients.

17 "Medical research", investigations, experiments, and studies to discover, develop, or  
18 verify knowledge relating to the causes, diagnosis, treatment, prevention, or control of physical  
19 or mental diseases and impairments of humans and animals or relating to the development of  
20 biomedical products, devices, or pharmaceuticals.

21 "Traditional animal test method", a process or procedure using animals to obtain  
22 information regarding the biological effects of exposure to a chemical or agent.

23 (b) (1) When testing a product, product formulation, chemical, or ingredient in the  
24 Commonwealth, no manufacturer or contract testing facility shall use a traditional animal test  
25 method for which a valid alternative test method exists. No provision of this subsection shall be  
26 construed to apply to a test method conducted for the purposes of medical research.

27 (c) The commissioner shall promulgate regulations to implement, enforce, and administer  
28 this section and shall establish standards for alternative test methods to ensure safety and  
29 comparable validity of results to traditional animal test methods. The commissioner shall

30 consider the Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development's Guidelines for the  
31 Testing of Chemicals when establishing said standards.

32 SECTION 2. The commissioner of public health shall promulgate regulations to  
33 implement this act no later than 180 days following passage of this act.

34 SECTION 3. Section 1 shall take effect 6 months after the passage of this act and section  
35 2 shall take effect upon passage.