

**ANIMAL
RESCUE
LEAGUE
of BOSTON**



A champion for animals

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ARL Taking Part in Cruelty-Free Cosmetics Day at State House

Event to urge passage of Cruelty-Free Alternatives Legislation

Boston, Mass. – A coalition of animal protection organizations, including the Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL), Animal Legal Defense Fund, the MSPCA, and the Humane Society of the United States will hold a Cruelty-Free Cosmetics Day at the Massachusetts State House on May 10th. The event aims to raise awareness and support for the passage of S.1424/H.850, the Cruelty-Free Alternatives legislation sponsored by Senator Mark Montigny and Representative Jack Patrick Lewis.

The proposed legislation requires manufacturers and contract testing facilities to use alternative test methods that reduce, refine, or replace vertebrate animal testing when such alternatives exist. The bill applies to products such as cosmetics, household cleaners, and industrial chemicals, but it does not apply to testing done for medical research, including testing of drugs or medical devices. The legislation would encourage companies in the Commonwealth to adopt scientifically superior, human-relevant, and more cost-effective testing methods while sparing numerous animals from unnecessary and cruel suffering.

Event Details:

When: Wednesday, May 10, 2023, at 11:00 AM

Where: Great Hall of Flags, Massachusetts State House, 24 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass. 02133

Who: Speakers include Senator Mark Montigny, Representative Jack Patrick Lewis, and representatives from the Animal Legal Defense Fund (ALDF), The Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL), The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), and the MSPCA.

During the event, cruelty-free products from companies supporting the proposed legislation will be distributed. The event will also commemorate the passage of the “Beagle Bill” last legislative session, which requires animal research and testing facilities in Massachusetts to offer healthy animals for adoption once their time in research has ended. The sponsors of the legislation will be presented with a commemorative award to honor this achievement.

In addition, legislators will present citations to the Massachusetts-based animal shelters, including ARL, that took in beagles from an HSUS rescue effort at a troubled Virginia breeding facility run by the company Envigo. The facility once housed nearly 4,000 dogs.

Purpose: Every year, tens of thousands of animals are subjected to cruel and unnecessary tests in the United States, enduring pain and suffering as harsh chemicals are rubbed into their skin, forced down their throats, and dripped into their eyes. This often results in prolonged, painful deaths. Despite the availability of modern non-animal test methods that are based on human biology, many companies continue to use outdated animal testing methods.

However, progress is being made. Several states, including California, Hawaii, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Nevada, and Virginia, have already passed laws prohibiting the sale of cosmetics tested with new animal testing. Experts in the scientific community have noted the superiority of alternative, non-animal test methods, including 3-D printing, artificial human tissue, organs-on-chips, and sophisticated computer programs. By adopting these methods, companies can save money, time, and, most importantly, lives.

With favorable reports from the committee in past sessions, this event aims to encourage further support for the passage of this crucial legislation.

ABOUT THE ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON:

The Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) is an unwavering champion for animals in need, committed to keeping them safe and healthy in habitats and homes. Founded in 1899, ARL provides high-quality veterinary care, adoption, and rescue services; while also confronting the root causes of animal cruelty and neglect through innovative community programs, police investigations, and public advocacy. In 2022, ARL served 20,601 animals throughout Massachusetts. ARL is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. The Animal Rescue League of Boston does not receive government grants or public funding and relies on the generosity of our supporters to help animals in need. For more information please visit us online at arlboston.org; and be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

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