

Rise for Animals.

333 Washington Street, Suite 850, Boston, MA 02108

riseforanimals.org

February 1, 2020

Senator William Stanley
Pocahontas Building
Room No: E504
Senate of Virginia
P. O. Box 396
Richmond, VA 23218
district20@senate.virginia.gov

Senator Jennifer Boysko
Pocahontas Building
Room No: E513
Senate of Virginia
P. O. Box 396
Richmond, VA 23218
district33@senate.virginia.gov

Dear Senators Boysko and Stanley,

On behalf of Rise for Animals (Rise) and our membership throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia, I am writing to offer our strongest endorsement for your legislation to encourage the post-research adoption of cats and dogs.

If enacted into law, S.B. 1417 would require any animal testing facility that no longer needs any dogs or cats in its possession to make a reasonable effort to make the animals available for adoption to a suitable party as an alternative to euthanasia. S.B. 1417 addresses an important problem, as 117 dogs and cats were used in research or held by research institutions in the state of Virginia in 2019.

We applaud your leadership on this commonsense issue, and for promoting a reasonable path forward to prevent unnecessary deaths of healthy cats and dogs who could otherwise be retired to a loving home.

We look forward to continuing to support this legislation as it advances to the Virginia House of Delegates for consideration.

Sincerely,



Mike Ryan
Director, Policy & Government Affairs
Rise for Animals