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February 22, 2022

The Honorable Roger Hauck Chair Regulatory Reform Committee Michigan House of Representatives PO Box 30014 Lansing, MI 48909-7514

RE: Support for HB 4881 and HB 4882

Dear Chairman Hauck and Members of the Committee:

I am writing on behalf of the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine, a national nonprofit with more than 175,000 members, including tens of thousands of physicians, scientists, and public health professionals. Our organization strongly supports HB 4881 and HB 4882, which would allow dogs and cats used in experiments a chance at loving homes. More than a dozen U.S. states have passed similar legislation; we hope Michigan will join their ranks.

Every year, research facilities in Michigan receive tens of millions of dollars from the National Institutes of Health and other funding sources—taxpayer money that is all too often used to conduct experiments on dogs and cats. Yet, despite the fact that many animals used in labs are adoptable, facilities habitually euthanize them rather than attempt to find them a home.

HB 4881 and HB 4882 would provide limited but necessary oversight for an industry that is often poorly regulated. These bills are also in keeping with the views of Michigan voters, who have stated their opposition to painful experiments on dogs.

We hope you will vote in favor of these bills. Thank you for your time and attention.

Very truly,

Ryan Merkley

Director of Research Advocacy

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