



Be Cruelty-Free Australia



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MEDIA RELEASE

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Politicians Voice their Support for an End to Cosmetics Animal Testing in Australia

And they join the 81% of Australians who support a national ban on the sale of cosmetics tested on animals

Several federal members of parliament, including **Deputy Opposition Leader Tanya Plibersek**, **Leader of the Greens Christine Milne**, Greens Animal Spokesperson Senator Lee Rhiannon, Greens MP Adam Bandt, Liberal MP Jason Wood, Labor MP Anna Burke, Senator Scott Ludlam, Senator Richard Di Natale, Senator Penny Wright, and Senator Peter Whish-Wilson, have all **pledged to Be Cruelty-Free** – showing their support for an end to animal-tested cosmetics. The Be Cruelty-Free Australia campaign is run by Humane Research Australia, Humane Society International and Choose Cruelty-Free, and is part of the global Be Cruelty-Free campaign to end cosmetics animal testing worldwide.

HIGH RESOLUTION PLEDGE PHOTOGRAPHS AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD AT:
www.humaneresearch.org.au/bcf/politician-pledges-bcf

“Animals shouldn’t suffer in the quest for better mascara or lipstick. Continuing to import cosmetics or cosmetic ingredients tested on animals is out of step with current community expectations. I believe Australia needs to play its part in the international movement against animal testing”, said **Deputy Opposition Leader, Tanya Plibersek**.

Greens Animal Spokesperson Senator Lee Rhiannon said: “It is disgraceful that the cruel and abhorrent practice of animal testing on cosmetic products and ingredients still continues. It’s time that our Government took note of the hundreds of thousands of people who have supported the ‘Be Cruelty-Free’ campaign, and move to end the manufacture, sale and import of cruel cosmetics.”

“The times of cosmetic testing on animals are well and truly over. The ‘Be Cruelty-Free’ Campaign is a great initiative which demonstrates the commitment of the general community to end this practice. I look forward to actively supporting this initiative to the best of my abilities”, said **Federal Member for La Trobe, Jason Wood MP**.

Animal testing for cosmetics is banned across the European Union, Israel and India, but is still legal in around 80 per cent of countries around the world, including Australia. Rabbits, guinea pigs, mice and rats endure pain and ultimately death for the beauty industry, including having chemicals dripped in their eyes or force-fed to them in massive, lethal doses. The results are of questionable relevance to humans, and such tests are being surpassed by state-of-the-art non-animal test methods.

“There is overwhelming public support for a national testing and sales ban in Australia, so we are delighted that Australian politicians are joining with our Be Cruelty-Free Australia campaign too.”

said Hannah Stuart, Be Cruelty-Free Australia Campaign Coordinator. “Testing cosmetics like mascara and shampoo on living creatures is a completely unnecessary cruelty and it’s time Australia joined a growing number of countries by banning it. Without a legal ban in Australia, there is nothing to prevent cosmetics animal testing now or in the future, and cosmetics tested on animals overseas are still sold in shops throughout the country. Please support us, go online and sign our *Be Cruelty-Free* pledge for a world without cosmetics cruelty.”

The **Be Cruelty-Free Australia Campaign** aims to raise awareness of the need to end animal testing for cosmetics in Australia and around the globe. Globally there are *Be Cruelty-Free* campaigns in Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, India, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Russia, Taiwan and the United States, where the campaign is led by The Humane Society of the United States.

Sign the **Be Cruelty-Free** pledge at hsi.org/becrueltyfree.

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