

Animals are used every day in New Zealand laboratories where they are seen as little more than just another piece of equipment. When they are no longer useful they are usually disposed of as if they were nothing more than a pair of disposable gloves. They deserve better. We are opposed to the use of animals as testing and research tools but until the day that ends we need the best possible outcomes for these animals.

### ***What is this petition asking for?***

We are asking that the government enact a mandatory animal retirement policy for animals used in research, testing and teaching. They should be rehomed through registered rescue organisations instead of being euthanized. This policy needs to also include all surplus and breeding animals in breeding units.

There are many ways this could be done in practice. The essential criteria for this policy are:

- Retirement has to be the first option before any other is considered
- They should go to willing and able rescue organisations to rehabilitate and rehome.
- Some history has to be provided to aid in rehabilitation
- Animals used to breed from need to be included. They deserve the same hope.

Policies like this are already in place in Australia and are being introduced in the United States of America. There is no reason why New Zealand cannot help lead the way and make this a reality here.

### ***I'd like to help. Is there more I can do?***

There is more to be done than just collecting petition signatures, though that is the main focus at this stage. You can contact your electorate MP and local list MPs from other parties, letting them know that you care about this issue, and urging them to support the request when it comes up. The main thing you can do now though is to help spread the word and increase awareness of the issue and this petition.

### ***How can I keep informed and up-to-date?***

The easiest way is to go to our website and sign up for the email updates. You can also contact us for regular updates, providing us with your preferred contact address. Don't have an email? That's fine. We'll post out important news. Just let us know, our contact details are below. We look forward to hearing from you!

