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SUPPORT THE GREAT APE PROTECTION AND COST SAVINGS ACT

The Great Ape Protection and Cost Savings Act is a bipartisan bill that makes sense— ethically, scientifically, and financially. Key provisions of the bill will:

- Phase out the use of chimpanzees in invasive research in both federally funded and private laboratories;
- Release the more than 500 federally owned chimpanzees to sanctuaries;
- Prohibit future breeding of chimpanzees for purposes of conducting invasive research.

The Great Ape Protection and Cost Savings Act is ethically responsible.

- The United States is the only nation in the world that is known to still use captive chimpanzees for large-scale invasive research.
- Many of the chimpanzees currently living in U.S. laboratories were captured from the wild as infants and have spent several decades in cages the size of a kitchen table, subject to repeated invasive procedures and breeding.
- Chimpanzees suffer similarly as humans to stress and trauma. Studies have documented symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder and depression in chimpanzees used in research.
- Chimpanzees' biological, emotional, and social needs simply cannot be met in a captive laboratory environment. Chimpanzees are naturally social. Their psychological well-being requires group coordination, kinship structure (families being together), and cultural development.

The Great Ape Protection and Cost Savings Act is scientifically responsible.

- Although chimpanzees are our closest genetic relatives, there are significant differences in genetic expression, physiology, and disease susceptibility, resulting in very different physiological responses to drugs and pathogens.
- In over a quarter of a century, more than 85 HIV vaccines were developed that demonstrated benefits in nonhuman primates but all failed in at least 200 human trials. In one case, a HIV vaccine candidate that proved to be effective in chimpanzees appeared to increase the likelihood of infection in humans.
- The hepatitis C virus behaves very differently in humans and chimpanzees, and several decades of research has failed to produce a human vaccine against hepatitis C. Currently, leading hepatitis C researchers are using human cell based research methods instead of chimpanzees.
- In 2008, GlaxoSmithKline, a major pharmaceutical company that is currently developing a vaccine for hepatitis C, voluntarily ended the use of chimpanzees in their research.
- Research funding would be better spent on superior modern testing methods, such as ethical, human-centered studies, computer simulation and mathematical modeling, microchip technology, microdosing, and *in vitro* testing.

The Great Ape Protection and Cost Savings Act is financially responsible.

- More than \$200 million in federal tax dollars were spent on chimpanzee experiments between FY2000-2010.
- The cost of supporting a single chimpanzee over the course of his or her lifetime can cost up to \$750,000 and using chimpanzees in an experiment, also funded using federal tax dollars, cost researchers up to \$70,000 for the use of one chimpanzee.
- Only 20 percent of chimpanzees in laboratories are used in research at any given time while 80 to 85 percent are warehoused at taxpayer expense.

To become a cosponsor, please contact:

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