

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

29 October 2021

Dr. Anthony Fauci, Director  
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases  
5601 Fishers Lane, MSC 9806  
Bethesda, MD 20892

Dr. Fauci:

We write to express deep concern about recent reports of inhumane experiments on beagle puppies conducted by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) at a cost to taxpayers of \$1.68 million.

One article reported that in addition to “force-feeding or injecting 44 beagle puppies aged 6-8 months old with an experimental drug before killing and dissecting them,” the research also “involved cutting the dogs’ vocal cords so they could not bark.”<sup>1</sup> As you are surely aware, the leading U.S. veterinary organizations such as the American Veterinary Medical Association and the American Animal Hospital Association “oppose non-therapeutic devocalization of dogs except...as a final alternative to relinquishment or euthanasia.”<sup>2</sup>

Even more troubling, this testing appears to have been elective on the part of NIAID, as the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has said it “does not mandate that human drugs be studied in dogs.”<sup>3</sup> We therefore request answers to the following questions:

1. Did the FDA require NIAID to perform these toxicity tests on dogs?
2. Did NIAID consult with the FDA about the possibility of using a method other than dog testing for its drug submission, as FDA guidelines allow and encourage?
3. Did the FDA require that the dogs be devocalized for the purpose of this testing? If not, why was this procedure performed?

We look forward to your timely response.

Sincerely,



Rand Paul, M.D.  
United States Senator



Roger Marshall, M.D.  
United States Senator

<sup>1</sup> Houseman, Dylan. “EXCLUSIVE: Fauci-Funded Experiment Killed Dozens Of Puppies Using Taxpayer Money.” The Daily Caller, 5 Oct. 2021, <https://dailycaller.com/2021/10/05/antony-fauci-niaid-white-coat-waste-anima-experiment-abuse/>

<sup>2</sup> American Veterinary Medical Association, “Welfare Implications of Canine Devocalization,” <https://www.avma.org/resources-tools/literature-reviews/welfare-implications-canine-devocalization>

<sup>3</sup> Taylor, Scott. “Drug-testing on puppies: new report asks for alternative testing at FDA labs.” WJLA, 11 July 2021, <https://wjla.com/features/i-team/animals-drug-testing-fda-labs-animals>



Tom Cotton  
United States Senator



Marco Rubio  
United States Senator



Mike Braun  
United States Senator



Susan Collins  
United States Senator