

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1547

To amend the Animal Welfare Act to strengthen the annual reporting requirements of research facilities conducting animal experimentation or testing and to improve the accountability of animal experimentation programs of the Department of Defense.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 2, 1995

Mr. TORRICELLI (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BROWN of California, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. JACOBS, Mr. WILSON, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. GEJDENSON, Mr. MANTON, Mr. DEUTSCH, Mr. VENTO, Mr. DELLUMS, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. EVANS, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. FARR, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. KLECZKA, and Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on National Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend the Animal Welfare Act to strengthen the annual reporting requirements of research facilities conducting animal experimentation or testing and to improve the accountability of animal experimentation programs of the Department of Defense.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Animal Experimen-
3 tation Right To Know Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 The Congress finds the following:

6 (1) Over 21,000,000 animals are used every
7 year in laboratory experiments and tests conducted
8 by research facilities subject to the Animal Welfare
9 Act (7 U.S.C. 2131 et seq.), and many of these ex-
10 periments and tests are painful, distressful and
11 cause permanent injury or death to the animals.

12 (2) In addition to animal experimentation and
13 testing conducted by private research facilities, the
14 Federal Government spends over \$5,000,000,000
15 annually on experiments and tests involving the use
16 of animals.

17 (3) The Federal Government must bear the re-
18 sponsibility for making information on animal ex-
19 perimentation complete, coherent, and readily acces-
20 sible to the American public.

21 (4) While the Department of Agriculture cur-
22 rently requires all registered research facilities con-
23 ducting animal research to file an annual report, the
24 compilation of these reports fails to provide com-
25 prehensive annual profiles of laboratory animal use
26 in the United States.

1 (5) The Department of Defense conducts al-
2 most \$200,000,000 worth of animal testing every
3 year and has not provided detailed information on
4 its experimentation programs.

5 (6) Military researchers receive Federal funding
6 for tests involving animals without being subject to
7 the same review process as other researchers in the
8 scientific community.

9 **SEC. 3. RESEARCH FACILITIES ANNUAL REPORT REGARD-**
10 **ING ANIMAL EXPERIMENTATION AND TEST-**
11 **ING.**

12 (a) ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS OF REPORT.—Sub-
13 section (a)(7)(B) of section 13 of the Animal Welfare Act
14 (7 U.S.C. 2143) is amended—

15 (1) in clause (i), by inserting “, information on
16 the severity of the pain or distress caused by such
17 procedures,” after “animal”;

18 (2) by striking “and” at the end of clause (ii);

19 (3) by striking the period at the end of clause
20 (iii) and inserting “; and”; and

21 (4) by adding at the end the following new
22 clauses:

23 “(iv) information regarding where animals used
24 by such facility were obtained;

1 “(v) an accurate count of all animals of all spe-
2 cies (including rats, mice, and birds) used in animal
3 experimentation testing, which, in the case of animal
4 experimentation testing involving nonhuman prima-
5 tes, shall be provided for each individual species; and

6 “(vi) information regarding the general pur-
7 poses of the animal experimentation program of
8 such facility, including whether the animals were
9 used in the fields of research, testing, or edu-
10 cation.”.

11 (b) AVAILABILITY OF CERTAIN REPORT INFORMA-
12 TION.—Subsection (a)(7) of such section is amended by
13 adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

14 “(C) The Secretary shall develop a system for releas-
15 ing to the public information derived from subparagraph
16 (B)(iv) regarding where animals used in research are ob-
17 tained.”.

18 (c) TIME FOR SUBMISSION OF REPORT.—Such sub-
19 section is further amended by inserting after subpara-
20 graph (C), as added by subsection (b), the following new
21 subparagraph:

22 “(D) The reports required by subparagraph (A) shall
23 be submitted to the Secretary not later than March 1 of
24 each year.”.

1 **SEC. 4. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ANIMAL EXPERIMEN-**
2 **TATION PROGRAMS.**

3 (a) SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR DEFENSE RE-
4 SEARCH FACILITIES.—Section 14 of the Animal Welfare
5 Act (7 U.S.C. 2144) is amended—

6 (1) by inserting “(a) IN GENERAL.—” after
7 “SEC. 14.”; and

8 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
9 section:

10 “(b) SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR DEPARTMENT OF
11 DEFENSE.—(1) Not later than March 1 each year, the
12 Secretary of Defense shall submit a report to Congress
13 on the animal experimentation programs of the Depart-
14 ment of Defense in existence during the preceding year.
15 Each report shall provide in-depth profiles of animal re-
16 search (including testing, education and training) con-
17 ducted at each Department research facility during the pe-
18 riod covered by the report. To the greatest extent possible,
19 the report should be filed as an unclassified document.

20 “(2) Each report shall include the following:

21 “(A) Initiatives to promote alternative research
22 methods that would phase out and reduce the use of
23 animals in research.

24 “(B) Procedures adopted to prevent unintended
25 duplication of research.

1 “(C) The total cost of the animal-based re-
2 search in comparison to other forms of biological re-
3 search conducted by the research facilities, each
4 military department, and the Department of Defense
5 as a whole.

6 “(3) The Secretary of Defense shall establish pro-
7 grams to phase out and replace current uses of animals
8 at research facilities of the Department of Defense, in ac-
9 cordance with the initiatives identified under paragraph
10 (2)(A).

11 “(4) The Secretary of Defense shall appoint an om-
12 budsman for animal issues at each research facility of the
13 Department of Defense. The duties of this individual
14 would be to field and act on any complaints and concerns
15 about the facility’s animal care and use program.

16 “(5) The Secretary of Defense shall submit an annual
17 report to the Secretary of Agriculture in accordance with
18 section 13(a)(7).

19 “(6) The Secretary of Defense may submit a waiver
20 form in place of any information regarding animal tests
21 that the Secretary of Defense determines cannot be pub-
22 licly disclosed for reasons of national security.”.

23 (b) REVIEW OF DEFENSE ANIMAL EXPERIMEN-
24 TATION PROGRAMS.—

1 (1) ESTABLISHMENT OF REVIEW PANEL.—The
2 President shall appoint an 11 member panel of bio-
3 medical experts and animal care experts to inves-
4 tigate the animal use and care programs of the De-
5 partment of Defense. At least two of the members
6 of the panel shall be selected from among persons
7 who are not officers or employees of the Federal
8 Government.

9 (2) TIME FOR APPOINTMENT.—The members of
10 the panel shall be appointed not later than 40 days
11 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

12 (3) PURPOSE OF PANEL.—At the direction of
13 the President, the panel shall examine the ethics and
14 regulation of the number and types of animal experi-
15 ments conducted by the Department of Defense.

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