

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 7224

To promote fair and transparent virtual currency markets by examining  
the potential for price manipulation.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 6, 2018

Mr. SOTO (for himself, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Mr. BUDD) introduced  
the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Ser-  
vices, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, 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 con-  
cerned

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## A BILL

To promote fair and transparent virtual currency markets  
by examining the potential for price manipulation.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Virtual Currency Con-  
5 sumer Protection Act of 2018”.

6 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.**

7 It is the sense of Congress that virtual currency could  
8 have a significant effect on the economy, and regulation

1 of them may be important to protect investors, deter bad  
2 actors, create market certainty, and ensure American com-  
3 petitiveness in an evolving global marketplace.

4 **SEC. 3. STUDY AND REPORT ON THE PREVENTION OF VIR-**  
5 **TUAL CURRENCY PRICE MANIPULATION.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the  
7 date of the enactment of this Act, the Chairman of the  
8 Commodity Futures Trading Commission, in consultation  
9 with the heads of the Securities and Exchange Commis-  
10 sion and other relevant Federal agencies (as determined  
11 by the Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Com-  
12 mission), shall submit to the Committees on Agriculture  
13 and on Financial Services of the House of Representatives  
14 and the Committees on Agriculture, Nutrition, and For-  
15 estry and on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the  
16 Senate a report to promote fair and transparent virtual  
17 currency markets by examining the potential for price ma-  
18 nipulation. The report shall include the following:

- 19 (1) A brief description of—
- 20 (A) methods by which persons could ma-  
21 nipulate the price of virtual currencies;
- 22 (B) which types of virtual currency, if any,  
23 are more susceptible to being manipulated; and

1 (C) the effects on, and particular harm to,  
2 investors if price manipulation of virtual cur-  
3 rencies occurs.

4 (2) An analysis of the extent to which the regu-  
5 latory authority of the Commodity Futures Trading  
6 Commission and other relevant Federal agencies al-  
7 lows for—

8 (A) market surveillance of virtual cur-  
9 rencies for signs of manipulation; and

10 (B) enforcement of Federal regulations  
11 against persons involved in any such manipula-  
12 tion.

13 (3) Recommendations for any legislative  
14 changes needed to improve the ability of the Com-  
15modity Futures Trading Commission and other rel-  
16 evant Federal agencies—

17 (A) to carry out the monitoring and en-  
18 forcement activities described in paragraph (2);

19 (B) to prevent price manipulations of vir-  
20 tual currencies; and

21 (C) to protect virtual currency investors  
22 from price manipulation.

23 (b) VIRTUAL CURRENCY DEFINED.—In this Act, the  
24 term “virtual currency” means a digital representation of  
25 value that does not have legal tender status and that func-

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- 1 tions as a medium of exchange, a unit of account, or a
- 2 store of value.

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