

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1155

To amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from conducting medical research causing significant pain or distress to dogs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 13, 2019

Ms. TITUS (for herself, Mr. MAST, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. ZELDIN, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. COHEN, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. TURNER, Mr. STAUBER, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. NORTON, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. POSEY, Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. BEYER, Mr. SUOZZI, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Mr. KATKO, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. CRIST, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. SOTO, Ms. BASS, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. WILD, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. WELCH, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. HURD of Texas, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. ESTES, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. LAMB, Mr. EVANS, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. TONKO, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Ms. JOHNSON of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from conducting medical research causing significant pain or distress to dogs.

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 “Preventing Unkind and
3 Painful Procedures and Experiments on Respected Spe-
4 cies Act of 2019” or the “PUPPERS Act of 2019”.

5 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AF-
6 FAIRS MEDICAL RESEARCH CAUSING SIG-
7 NIFICANT PAIN OR DISTRESS TO DOGS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7303 of title 38, United
9 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
10 lowing new subsection:

11 “(e)(1) In carrying out research, the Secretary may
12 not purchase, breed, transport, house, feed, maintain, dis-
13 pose of, or experiment on dogs as part of the conduct of
14 any study that causes significant pain or distress.

15 “(2) In this subsection, the term ‘study that causes
16 significant pain or distress’—

17 “(A) includes any study classified to pain cat-
18 egory D or E by the Department of Agriculture; and

19 “(B) does not include any physical exam, train-
20 ing program, or study relating to service or working
21 dogs.”.

22 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
23 subsection (a) shall take effect 90 days after the date of
24 enactment of this Act.

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