

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1629

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 20, 2021

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education,  
Labor, and Pensions

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## AN ACT

To amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to limitations on exclusive approval or licensure of orphan drugs, and for other purposes.

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 “Fairness in Orphan  
3 Drug Exclusivity Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. LIMITATIONS ON EXCLUSIVE APPROVAL OR LICEN-**  
5 **SURE OF ORPHAN DRUGS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 527 of the Federal Food,  
7 Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 360cc) is amended—

8 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “Except as  
9 provided in subsection (b)” and inserting “Except as  
10 provided in subsection (b) or (f)”; and

11 (2) by adding at the end the following:

12 “(f) LIMITATIONS ON EXCLUSIVE APPROVAL, CER-  
13 TIFICATION, OR LICENSE.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For a drug designated  
15 under section 526 for a rare disease or condition  
16 pursuant to the criteria set forth in subsection  
17 (a)(2)(B) of such section, the Secretary shall not  
18 grant, recognize, or apply exclusive approval or licen-  
19 sure under subsection (a), and, if such exclusive ap-  
20 proval or licensure has been granted, recognized, or  
21 applied, shall revoke such exclusive approval or licen-  
22 sure, unless the sponsor of the application for such  
23 drug demonstrates—

24 “(A) with respect to an application ap-  
25 proved or a license issued after the date of en-  
26 actment of this subsection, upon such approval

1 or issuance, that there is no reasonable expecta-  
2 tion at the time of such approval or issuance  
3 that the cost of developing and making avail-  
4 able in the United States such drug for such  
5 disease or condition will be recovered from sales  
6 in the United States of such drug, taking into  
7 account all sales made or reasonably expected  
8 to be made within 12 years of first marketing  
9 the drug; or

10 “(B) with respect to an application ap-  
11 proved or a license issued on or prior to the  
12 date of enactment of this subsection, not later  
13 than 60 days after such date of enactment, that  
14 there was no reasonable expectation at the time  
15 of such approval or issuance that the cost of de-  
16 veloping and making available in the United  
17 States such drug for such disease or condition  
18 would be recovered from sales in the United  
19 States of such drug, taking into account all  
20 sales made or reasonably expected to be made  
21 within 12 years of first marketing the drug.

22 “(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—For purposes of sub-  
23 paragraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1), the Sec-  
24 retary and the sponsor of the application for the  
25 drug designated for a rare disease or condition de-

1 scribed in such paragraph shall consider sales from  
2 all drugs that—

3 “(A) are developed or marketed by the  
4 same sponsor or manufacturer of the drug (or  
5 a licensor, predecessor in interest, or other re-  
6 lated entity to the sponsor or manufacturer);  
7 and

8 “(B) are covered by the same designation  
9 under section 526.

10 “(3) CRITERIA.—No drug designated under  
11 section 526 for a rare disease or condition pursuant  
12 to the criteria set forth in subsection (a)(2)(B) of  
13 such section shall be eligible for exclusive approval  
14 or licensure under this section unless it met such  
15 criteria under such subsection on the date on which  
16 the drug was approved or licensed.”.

17 (b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The amendments  
18 made in subsection (a) shall apply to any drug that has  
19 been or is hereafter designated under section 526 of the  
20 Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 360bb)  
21 for a rare disease or condition pursuant to the criteria  
22 under subsection (a)(2)(B) of such section regardless of—

23 (1) the date on which such drug is designated  
24 or becomes the subject of a designation request  
25 under such section;

1 (2) the date on which such drug is approved  
2 under section 505 of such Act (21 U.S.C. 355) or  
3 licensed under section 351 of the Public Health  
4 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 262) or becomes the subject  
5 of an application for such approval or licensure; and

6 (3) the date on which such drug is granted ex-  
7 clusive approval or licensure under section 527 of  
8 the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21  
9 U.S.C. 360cc) or becomes the subject of a request  
10 for such exclusive approval or licensure.

11 **SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.**

12 The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of  
13 complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010,  
14 shall be determined by reference to the latest statement  
15 titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this  
16 Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record  
17 by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, pro-  
18 vided that such statement has been submitted prior to the  
19 vote on passage.

Passed the House of Representatives May 19, 2021.

Attest: CHERYL L. JOHNSON,  
*Clerk.*