

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3542

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit certain types of human-animal chimeras.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 25, 2021

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. HARRIS, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mr. BABIN, Mr. JACKSON, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. ROY, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, and Mr. VAN DREW) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit certain types of human-animal chimeras.

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 “Human-Animal Chi-  
5 mera Prohibition Act of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN HUMAN-ANIMAL CHI-**  
 2 **MERAS.**

3 Part I of title 18, United States Code, is amended  
 4 by inserting after chapter 51 the following:

5 **“CHAPTER 52—CERTAIN TYPES OF**  
 6 **HUMAN-ANIMAL CHIMERAS PROHIBITED**

“Sec.

“1131. Definitions.

“1132. Prohibition on certain human-animal chimeras.

7 **“§ 1131. Definitions**

8 “In this chapter the following definitions apply:

9 “(1) PROHIBITED HUMAN-ANIMAL CHIMERA.—

10 The term ‘prohibited human-animal chimera’  
 11 means—

12 “(A) a human embryo into which a  
 13 nonhuman cell or cells (or the component parts  
 14 thereof) have been introduced to render the em-  
 15 bryo’s membership in the species *Homo sapiens*  
 16 uncertain;

17 “(B) a human-animal embryo produced by  
 18 fertilizing a human egg with nonhuman sperm;

19 “(C) a human-animal embryo produced by  
 20 fertilizing a nonhuman egg with human sperm;

21 “(D) an embryo produced by introducing a  
 22 nonhuman nucleus into a human egg;

23 “(E) an embryo produced by introducing a  
 24 human nucleus into a nonhuman egg;

1           “(F) an embryo containing at least haploid  
2 sets of chromosomes from both a human and a  
3 nonhuman life form;

4           “(G) a nonhuman life form engineered  
5 such that human gametes develop within the  
6 body of a nonhuman life form;

7           “(H) a nonhuman life form engineered  
8 such that it contains a human brain or a brain  
9 derived wholly or predominantly from human  
10 neural tissues;

11           “(I) a nonhuman life form engineered such  
12 that it exhibits human facial features or other  
13 bodily morphologies to resemble human fea-  
14 tures; or

15           “(J) an embryo produced by mixing  
16 human and nonhuman cells, such that—

17           “(i) human gametes develop within  
18 the body of the resultant organism;

19           “(ii) it contains a human brain or a  
20 brain derived wholly or predominantly from  
21 human neural tissues; or

22           “(iii) it exhibits human facial features  
23 or other bodily morphologies to resemble  
24 human features.

1           “(2) HUMAN EMBRYO.—The term ‘human em-  
2           bryo’ means an organism of the species *Homo sapi-*  
3           *ens* during the earliest stages of development, from  
4           1 cell up to 8 weeks.

5   **“§ 1132. Prohibition on certain human-animal chi-**  
6   **meras**

7           “(a) IN GENERAL.—It shall be unlawful for any per-  
8           son to knowingly, in or otherwise affecting interstate com-  
9           merce—

10           “(1) create or attempt to create a prohibited  
11           human-animal chimera;

12           “(2) transfer or attempt to transfer a human  
13           embryo into a nonhuman womb;

14           “(3) transfer or attempt to transfer a non-  
15           human embryo into a human womb; or

16           “(4) transport or receive for any purpose a pro-  
17           hibited human-animal chimera.

18           “(b) PENALTIES.—

19           “(1) IN GENERAL.—Whoever violates subsection  
20           (a) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not  
21           more than 10 years, or both.

22           “(2) CIVIL PENALTY.—Whoever violates sub-  
23           section (a) and derives pecuniary gain from such vio-  
24           lation shall be subject to a civil fine of the greater

1 of \$1,000,000 and an amount equal to the amount  
2 of the gross gain multiplied by 2.

3 “(c) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—This section does  
4 not prohibit research involving the use of transgenic ani-  
5 mal models containing human genes or transplantation of  
6 human organs, tissues, or cells into recipient animals, if  
7 such activities are not prohibited under subsection (a).”.

8 **SEC. 3. TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.**

9 The table of chapters for part I of title 18, United  
10 States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relat-  
11 ing to chapter 51 the following:

**“52. Certain types of human-animal chimeras prohibited.”.**

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