

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4488

To authorize the Federal Trade Commission to independently initiate certain actions to recover civil penalties for such violations.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 16, 2021

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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

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## A BILL

To authorize the Federal Trade Commission to independently initiate certain actions to recover civil penalties for such violations.

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 “FTC Autonomy Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION INDEPENDENT LITI-**  
2 **GATION AUTHORITY.**

3 (a) **AUTHORITY OF THE FTC TO RECOVER CERTAIN**  
4 **CIVIL PENALTIES.**—The Federal Trade Commission Act  
5 is amended—

6 (1) in section 5(l) (15 U.S.C. 45(l)) in the first  
7 sentence by inserting “the Commission or” after  
8 “brought by”; and

9 (2) in section 16(a)(2) (15 U.S.C. 56(a)(2))—

10 (A) in subparagraph (D), by striking “;  
11 or” and inserting a semicolon; and

12 (B) by inserting after subparagraph (E)  
13 the following:

14 “(E) to obtain a civil penalty authorized under  
15 any provision of law enforced by the Commission.”.

16 (b) **CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—Section  
17 16(a)(1)(A) of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15  
18 U.S.C. 56(a)(1)(A)) is amended by striking “(including an  
19 action to collect a civil penalty)”.

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