

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 47

To provide for regulations on protecting statutory conscience rights in health care.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 9, 2025

Mr. HAWLEY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To provide for regulations on protecting statutory conscience rights in health care.

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 “Defense of Conscience
5 in Health Care Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. REGULATIONS ON PROTECTING STATUTORY CON-**
7 **SCIENCE RIGHTS IN HEALTH CARE.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the
9 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and
10 Human Services shall—

1 (1) issue, under the Federal conscience and
2 anti-discrimination laws, a final rule that is identical
3 or materially equivalent to the former rule stated in
4 part 88 of title 45, Code of Federal Regulations, as
5 in effect on July 22, 2019 (84 Fed. Reg. 23170; re-
6 lating to protecting statutory conscience rights in
7 health care; delegations of authority); and

8 (2) specify in the final rule that the rule super-
9 sedes any contrary rule in existence on the date of
10 issuance.

11 (b) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “Federal
12 conscience and anti-discrimination laws” has the meaning
13 given the term in the former rule specified in subsection
14 (a)(1).

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