

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 297

To prohibit the availability of Federal funds to institutions of higher education that conduct painful biomedical research on dogs and cats.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 9, 2025

Ms. MALLIOTAKIS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce

A BILL

To prohibit the availability of Federal funds to institutions of higher education that conduct painful biomedical research on dogs and cats.

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 “Higher Education
5 Loses Payments for Painful Experiments, Tests and Stud-
6 ies Act” or the “HELP PETS Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON AVAILABILITY OF FEDERAL**
2 **FUNDS TO INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDU-**
3 **CATION THAT CONDUCT PAINFUL RESEARCH**
4 **USING DOGS AND CATS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on the date that is 180
6 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, no Fed-
7 eral funds may be made available to any institution of
8 higher education that conducts or funds, in whole or in
9 part, painful research on dogs or cats.

10 (b) EXCEPTIONS.—Subsection (a) shall not apply
11 to—

12 (1) clinical veterinary research; or

13 (2) any physical exam, training program, or
14 study relating to service animals or military animals.

15 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

16 (1) CLINICAL VETERINARY RESEARCH.—The
17 term “clinical veterinary research” means research
18 on a dog or cat with a naturally occurring disease
19 or injury that is conducted—

20 (A) for the benefit of the dog or cat; and

21 (B) with the intention of studying the ef-
22 fect of a procedure, device, or treatment pro-
23 tocol.

24 (2) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The
25 term “institution of higher education” has the

1 meaning given the term in section 102 of the Higher
2 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002).

3 (3) MILITARY ANIMAL.—The term “military
4 animal” has the meaning given the term in section
5 2583(i)(1) of title 10, United States Code.

6 (4) PAINFUL RESEARCH.—The term “painful
7 research” includes any research, biomedical training,
8 experimentation, or biological testing classified in
9 pain category D or E by the Department of Agri-
10 culture.

11 (5) SERVICE ANIMAL.—The term “service ani-
12 mal” has the meaning given the term in section 37.3
13 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations.

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