

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 3012

To provide a moratorium on all Federal research grants provided to any institution of higher education or other research institute that is conducting gain-of-function research.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 19, 2021

Mr. MARSHALL (for himself, Mr. PAUL, Ms. ERNST, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. COTTON, and Mr. WICKER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To provide a moratorium on all Federal research grants provided to any institution of higher education or other research institute that is conducting gain-of-function research.

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 “Viral Gain of Function
5 Research Moratorium Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON FEDERAL RESEARCH GRANTS**
2 **FOR INSTITUTIONS AND RESEARCH INSTI-**
3 **TUTES CONDUCTING GAIN-OF-FUNCTION RE-**
4 **SEARCH.**

5 (a) DEFINITION OF GAIN-OF-FUNCTION RE-
6 SEARCH.—In this section, the term “gain-of-function re-
7 search” means any research that—

8 (1) may be reasonably anticipated to confer at-
9 tributes to influenza, MERS, or SARS viruses such
10 that the virus would have enhanced pathogenicity or
11 transmissibility in any organism; or

12 (2) involves the enhancement of potential pan-
13 demic pathogens or related risky research with po-
14 tentially dangerous pathogens.

15 (b) PROHIBITION.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
16 sion of law, no research grants supported by Federal funds
17 may be awarded to institutions of higher education, or
18 other research institutes, that are conducting gain-of-func-
19 tion research.

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