

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.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 9, 2025

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

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## 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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