

The House of Representatives is poised to pass bipartisan legislation that would finally empower the Consumer Product Safety Commission to set long-overdue mandatory safety standards for the manufacturing of lithium-ion batteries in e-mobility devices. In passing legislation so urgently needed, we are upholding our most solemn obligation: public safety.

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Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman is correct, the sponsor of the bill. We are upholding this very important need. We are moving forward because we have a chairman and a ranking member that worked very hard to address these issues and move them forward. Let's get this done as soon as possible.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage a "yes" vote on this particular bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

Mr. Speaker, I don't think I can stress enough the importance of this bill as Mr. TORRES has related. These fires and these problems are getting worse all the time, so we have to set a standard.

I urge my colleagues on a bipartisan, unanimous basis to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I encourage a "yes" vote on this particular bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1797, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

CONSUMER SAFETY TECHNOLOGY ACT

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4814) to direct the Consumer Product Safety Commission to establish a pilot program to explore the use of artificial intelligence in support of the mission of the Commission and to direct the Secretary of Commerce and the Federal Trade Commission to study and report on the use of blockchain technology and digital tokens, respectively, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4814

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) *SHORT TITLE.*—This Act may be cited as the "Consumer Safety Technology Act".

(b) *TABLE OF CONTENTS.*—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Definitions.

TITLE I—ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY

Sec. 101. Short title.

Sec. 102. Pilot program for use of artificial intelligence by Consumer Product Safety Commission.

TITLE II—BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION

Sec. 201. Short title.

Sec. 202. Study on blockchain technology and its use in consumer protection.

TITLE III—TOKEN TAXONOMY

Sec. 301. Short title.

Sec. 302. Findings.

Sec. 303. Report on unfair or deceptive acts or practices in transactions relating to tokens.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act—

(1) the term "consumer product" has the meaning given such term in section 3(a) of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2052(a));

(2) the term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Commerce; and

(3) the term "token" means a transferrable, digital representation of information recorded on a blockchain or other distributed ledger technology.

TITLE I—ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY

SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "AI for Consumer Product Safety Act".

SEC. 102. PILOT PROGRAM FOR USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE BY CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION.

(a) *ESTABLISHMENT.*—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Consumer Product Safety Commission shall establish a pilot program to explore the use of artificial intelligence by the Commission in support of the consumer product safety mission of the Commission, as described in section 2(b) of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2051(b)).

(b) *REQUIREMENTS.*—In conducting the pilot program established under subsection (a), the Commission shall do the following:

(1) Use artificial intelligence for at least 1 of the following purposes:

(A) Tracking trends with respect to injuries involving consumer products.

(B) Identifying consumer product hazards.

(C) Monitoring the retail marketplace (including internet websites) for the sale of recalled consumer products (including both new and used products).

(D) Identifying consumer products required by section 17(a) of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2066(a)) to be refused admission into the customs territory of the United States.

(2) Consistent with section 6 of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2055), consult with the following:

(A) Technologists, data scientists, and experts in artificial intelligence and machine learning.

(B) Cybersecurity experts.

(C) Members of the retail industry.

(D) Consumer product manufacturers.

(E) Consumer product safety organizations.

(F) Any other person the Commission considers appropriate.

(c) *REPORT TO CONGRESS.*—Not later than 1 year after the conclusion of the pilot program established under subsection (a), the Consumer Product Safety Commission shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the

House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and make publicly available on the website of the Commission, a report on the findings and data derived from such program, including the extent to which the use of artificial intelligence improved the ability of the Commission to advance the consumer product safety mission of the Commission.

TITLE II—BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION

SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Blockchain Innovation Act".

SEC. 202. STUDY ON BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY AND ITS USE IN CONSUMER PROTECTION.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—

(1) *STUDY REQUIRED.*—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Commerce, in consultation with the Federal Trade Commission and any other Federal agency the Secretary determines appropriate, shall complete a study on the possible uses of blockchain technology for consumer protection purposes, including preventing or mitigating fraud and other unfair or deceptive acts or practices.

(2) *REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDY.*—In conducting the study required by paragraph (1), the Secretary shall examine—

(A) existing and emerging uses of blockchain technology that could help protect consumers, including by preventing or mitigating fraud and other unfair or deceptive acts or practices within the meaning of section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 45);

(B) trends in the commercial use of and investment in blockchain technology to prevent or mitigate fraud and other unfair or deceptive acts or practices as described in subparagraph (A);

(C) best practices in facilitating public-private partnerships in blockchain technology to prevent or mitigate fraud and other unfair or deceptive acts or practices as described in subparagraph (A);

(D) potential benefits and risks related to the use of blockchain technology to prevent or mitigate fraud and other unfair or deceptive acts or practices as described in subparagraph (A);

(E) possible modifications to Federal regulations that could encourage the use of blockchain technology to prevent or mitigate fraud and other unfair or deceptive acts or practices as described in subparagraph (A); and

(F) any other relevant observations or recommendations related to the use of blockchain technology for consumer protection purposes, including preventing or mitigating fraud and other unfair or deceptive acts or practices as described in subparagraph (A).

(3) *PUBLIC COMMENT.*—In conducting the study required by paragraph (1), the Secretary shall provide opportunity for public comment and advice relevant to conducting the study.

(b) *REPORT TO CONGRESS.*—Not later than 6 months after the completion of the study required by subsection (a)(1), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and make publicly available on the website of the Department of Commerce, a report that contains the results of such study.

TITLE III—TOKEN TAXONOMY

SEC. 301. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Digital Taxonomy Act".

SEC. 302. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) it is important that the United States remains a leader in innovation;

(2) tokens and blockchain technology are driving innovation and providing consumers with increased choice and convenience;

(3) the use of tokens and blockchain technology is likely to increase in the future;

(4) the Federal Trade Commission is responsible for protecting consumers from unfair or deceptive acts or practices, including relating to tokens;

(5) the Commission has previously taken action against unscrupulous companies and individuals that committed unfair or deceptive acts or practices involving tokens; and

(6) to bolster the Commission's ability to enforce against unfair or deceptive acts or practices involving tokens, the Commission should ensure staff have appropriate training and resources to identify and pursue such cases.

SEC. 303. REPORT ON UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS OR PRACTICES IN TRANSACTIONS RELATING TO TOKENS.

Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Trade Commission shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and make publicly available on the website of the Commission, a report on—

(1) any actions taken by the Commission relating to unfair or deceptive acts or practices in transactions relating to tokens;

(2) any other efforts of the Commission to prevent unfair or deceptive acts or practices relating to tokens; and

(3) any recommendations by the Commission for legislation that would improve the ability of the Commission and other relevant Federal agencies to further protect consumers from unfair or deceptive acts or practices in the token marketplace.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material in the RECORD on this particular bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I express my support for H.R. 4814, the Consumer Safety Technology Act led by Representatives SOTO, BURGESS, TRAHAN, and GUTHRIE.

It should be no surprise, Mr. Speaker, that the global race for economic dominance today is centered around technology, specifically around emerging technologies like artificial intelligence and blockchain.

Throughout this Congress, the Energy and Commerce Committee, led by our chairwoman, CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS, and our ranking member, Mr. PALLONE, has examined ways that the U.S. can continue to lead in the development and deployment of such technologies.

In our subcommittee, we have discussed the need to ensure America leads the world and wins this critical competition, particularly against our adversaries, in this case, China, in every field. This legislation will com-

plement other initiatives we are undertaking.

If enacted, H.R. 4814 would ensure our consumer protection agencies stay up to date with emerging technologies and would encourage the use of emerging technologies such as AI and blockchain in support of product safety and consumer protection.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for their work on this particular piece of legislation, and I urge a "yes" vote on H.R. 4814.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 4814, the Consumer Safety Technology Act.

Our consumer protection agencies play a critical role in ensuring unsafe products do not enter the U.S. market. Advancements in technology, especially as it relates to artificial intelligence, have the potential to help alleviate the stress some of these agencies may face in being underfunded and understaffed.

H.R. 4814 would require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to stay up to date on new and emerging technologies by integrating them into their daily agency functions. It also requires the Federal Trade Commission to study blockchain technologies and tokens.

Both the CPSC and the FTC do important work to protect all Americans from dangerous products. While this bill will help assist them in those efforts, it is no replacement for properly funding these agencies.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the main sponsor of this bill, Representative SOTO, a member of our committee, for his leadership on this issue, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SOTO), the sponsor of this bill.

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of my bill, the Consumer Safety Technology Act, H.R. 4814.

It directs the Consumer Product Safety Commission to launch a pilot program to explore the use of artificial intelligence to track injury trends, identify hazards, monitor recalls, and identify products not meeting importation requirements.

It also requires the Department of Commerce and other agencies to study blockchain technology in the context of consumer products and safety. It also directs the Department of Commerce and the Federal Trade Commission to report on their efforts to address unfair and deceptive trade practices related to digital tokens and to promote innovation.

We heard in committee, Mr. Speaker, that the crooks are already using AI on the internet and that we need the cops on the beat to have artificial intel-

ligence as well to keep our consumers safe.

Let's think about it. The internet is nearly infinite, and so are the ways to push unsafe products and put consumers in harm's way. That is why the Federal Trade Commission testified before our committee that the use of artificial intelligence would help them protect consumers by tracking trends of injuries involving a myriad of consumer products. Thousands of injuries happen each day. It helps with identifying consumer product hazards, categorizing them, and monitoring the sale of recalled consumer products. Think of how much commerce happens every day in America. It helps to identify consumer products that do not meet the importation requirements.

It also requires a report to Congress on how and to what extent artificial intelligence improved the agency's ability to advance its mission.

The FTC also testified it would help them save money in that it would be a really economic and efficient way to deploy other members of the FTC to go after other areas. I do agree with the ranking member that that is no substitute for making sure they have the full funding that they need.

In addition, the blockchain technology study directs the Department of Commerce to study the applications of blockchain and to address fraud and unfair and deceptive trade practices. Blockchain can be used in so many different ways, whether it is through cryptocurrency, through storing data, through cybersecurity, or through communications. Of course, this should be done in consultation with the Federal Trade Commission, the FTC.

Finally, we have commissioned the Federal Trade Commission to report to Congress on unfair and deceptive trade practices relating to tokens. We have also seen a need to protect consumers and promote innovation. We eventually need rules of the road, and this is helping get us there with blockchain. We need more certainty so we can have growth in both blockchain and cryptocurrency firms in the United States, giving them an understanding and certainty of the laws and their obligations, and also to protect consumers from scams like pump and dump, whitewashing, and other financial schemes.

Mr. Speaker, for that and more, I am thrilled to be able to have this bill be heard on the floor, and I thank my colleagues, Representatives BURGESS, TRAHAN, GUTHRIE, CASTOR, my fellow Floridian, Chairman GUS BILIRAKIS, and our Ranking Member FRANK PALLONE for including this on the agenda today.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this bill on both sides. It is obviously an important consumer safety bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, this is a great deal. These bills aren't high-

profile bills, but they are very important. They affect our constituents directly, and we have to stay ahead of the crooks.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I encourage a “yes” vote on this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4814, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: “A bill to direct the Consumer Product Safety Commission to establish a pilot program to explore the use of artificial intelligence in support of the mission of the Commission and to direct the Secretary of Commerce and the Federal Trade Commission to study and report on the use of blockchain technology and tokens, respectively.”

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE MANUFACTURING FEASIBILITY ACT

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5390) to direct the Secretary of Commerce to conduct a study on the feasibility of manufacturing in the United States products for critical infrastructure sectors, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5390

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Critical Infrastructure Manufacturing Feasibility Act”.

SEC. 2. STUDY ON CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE MANUFACTURING IN THE UNITED STATES.

(a) STUDY.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Commerce shall conduct a study to—

(1) identify, within each critical infrastructure sector, any product that is in high demand and is being imported due to a manufacturing, material, or supply chain constraint in the United States;

(2) analyze the costs and benefits of manufacturing in the United States any product identified under paragraph (1), including any effects on—

(A) jobs, employment rates, and labor conditions in the United States; and

(B) the cost of the product;

(3) identify any product identified under paragraph (1) that feasibly may be manufactured in the United States; and

(4) analyze the feasibility of, and any impediments to, manufacturing any product identified under paragraph (3) in—

(A) a rural area;

(B) an industrial park; or

(C) an industrial park in a rural area.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall—

(1) submit to Congress a report containing the results of the study required by subsection (a), with recommendations relating to manufacturing in the United States products identified under subsection (a)(3); and

(2) make the report available to the public on the website of the Department of Commerce.

(c) LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY.—This section may not be construed to provide the Secretary of Commerce with authority to compel a person to provide information described in this section.

(d) DEFINITION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE SECTOR.—In this section, the term “critical infrastructure sector” means each of the 16 designated critical infrastructure sectors identified in Presidential Policy Directive 21 of February 12, 2013 (Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material in the RECORD on this particular bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Critical Infrastructure Manufacturing Feasibility Act, and I thank Representative MILLER-MEEKS, as well as Representatives BUCSHON, KUSTER, SCHRIER, and SPANBERGER for their leadership on this particular piece of legislation.

Manufacturing remains an essential sector for the United States, not only in terms of economic stability and American job creation, but also to ensure global leadership in areas like developing and deploying emerging technologies.

With that in mind, it is important that the United States examines where barriers exist for manufacturing in the U.S., in particular, manufacturing critical products that are in high demand in the United States. Failure to do so may cause companies offering products and services to become reliant upon countries like China for critical components and goods necessary for those products and services.

Instead, we should be analyzing ways to feasibly manufacture these products here at home. I am strongly supportive of finding pathways forward to increase our capacity to manufacture products domestically here in the United States. In fact, I am the co-chair of the newly formed Domestic Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Caucus with my colleague and good friend, BUDDY CARTER, and we are looking at ways to bring back American manufacturing of biopharmaceuticals here in the United States, as well.

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I thank all of my colleagues here, but Dr. MILLER-MEEKS in particular, for their important work on H.R. 5390. This legislation will help the United States identify the pathway to secure leadership in domestic manufacturing and innovation and protect economic and national security.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this particular bill sponsored by my good friend, Dr. MILLER-MEEKS, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5390, the Critical Infrastructure Manufacturing Feasibility Act.

Our Nation’s manufacturing base was once the envy of the world, but unfortunately, it has faced steady headwinds for the last several decades. The United States’ share of global manufacturing activity has declined from 28 percent in 2002 to less than 16 percent in 2021. Investments in America’s small and medium manufacturers, the bedrock of our industrial might, has also declined over the last 20 years by more than \$200 billion. This has also resulted in our domestic manufacturing base shedding more than 4 million jobs.

Fortunately, the work we did last Congress in passing the bipartisan infrastructure law, the Inflation Reduction Act, and the Chips and Science Act are already helping to turn the tide. Our Nation added nearly 800,000 manufacturing jobs during President Biden’s first 20 months in office. Total construction spending on manufacturing in this time has skyrocketed to nearly \$200 billion per month, more than doubling prepandemic levels.

H.R. 5390, the Critical Infrastructure Manufacturing Feasibility Act, will further support America’s manufacturing renaissance by commissioning the Department of Commerce to study the costs, benefits, and feasibility of manufacturing products within critical infrastructure sectors in the United States.

I thank Representatives MILLER-MEEKS, SPANBERGER, KUSTER, and BUCSHON for their bipartisan work and leadership on this issue, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS), my good friend.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Representative BILIRAKIS, for yielding me time to enthusiastically support my legislation, H.R. 5390, the Critical Infrastructure Manufacturing Feasibility Act.

As we gather on the House floor, the urgency of this legislation has only intensified since its consideration in committee, and the challenges facing our manufacturing sector grow more acute. The global supply chain disruptions that have plagued us in recent years, especially during the pandemic,