

120th CONGRESS

1st Session

H.R. _____

To restore clarity, proportionality, and predictability in Federal law by anchoring criminal liability and regulation in intentionality, transparency, and natural rights, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

January ___, 2027

Mr. _____ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Accountability, Education and the Workforce, Energy and Commerce, and Ways and Means.

A BILL

To restore clarity, proportionality, and predictability in Federal law by anchoring criminal liability and regulation in intentionality, transparency, and natural rights, and for other purposes.

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 “Intentionality and Regulatory Simplicity Act of 2027”.

SECTION 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that

- 1 Human behavior, including harmful conduct, cannot be fully prevented through legal prohibition alone;
- 2 Excessively complex and protocol-driven regulatory systems undermine public understanding, consistent enforcement, and respect for the law;
- 3 The principle of intentionality has historically served as the foundation of moral responsibility and criminal liability;
- 4 Natural rights to life, liberty, and property preexist government and must not be infringed by statutory construction;
- 5 Transparency and measurable outcomes provide more effective accountability than prescriptive compliance regimes; and
- 6 A clear, principle-based legal framework enhances individual responsibility, deterrence, and public trust.

TITLE I: INTENTIONALITY IN CRIMINAL LIABILITY

SEC. 101. INTENTIONALITY AS THE PRIMARY DETERMINANT OF GUILT.

(a) **In general.** For purposes of Federal criminal law, liability shall be determined primarily by whether the underlying act was committed intentionally or unintentionally.

(b) **Definitions.**

- The term “intentional act” means an act undertaken with conscious objective or purposeful volition.
- The term “unintentional act” means an act resulting from accident, negligence, or recklessness without intent to cause the prohibited outcome.

(c) **Proportionality.** Sentencing shall reflect the intentional or unintentional nature of the act and shall not be enhanced solely by the magnitude of resulting harm.

SEC. 102. PROTECTION OF NATURAL RIGHTS.

No act shall constitute a crime under Federal law if committed intentionally for the purpose of defending life, liberty, or lawfully held property.

TITLE II: PRINCIPLE-BASED REGULATION

SEC. 201. DEFAULT TO PRINCIPLE-BASED REGULATION.

- (a) **Presumption.** All Federal regulations shall, to the maximum extent practicable, be drafted as principle-based rules grounded in clear, high-level standards.
- (b) **Limitation.** Protocol-based regulations may be adopted only where principle-based regulation is demonstrably insufficient.

SEC. 202. SUFFICIENCY TEST.

- A regulation shall be deemed sufficient as a principle-based rule if
- (1) its language can be uniformly understood and applied without supplemental guidance;
 - (2) its purpose is achieved through application of intentionality alone; and
 - (3) additional rules would duplicate, conflict with, or dilute the underlying principle or natural rights.

SEC. 203. NECESSITY TEST.

- Protocol-based regulation may be authorized only if
- (1) consistent enforcement is impossible without specific procedures;
 - (2) foreseeable and measurable harm would result from lack of detail; or
 - (3) the regulatory objective cannot be achieved through intentionality or transparency alone.

TITLE III: TRANSPARENCY AND MARKET ACCOUNTABILITY

SEC. 301. TRANSPARENCY AS PRIMARY REGULATORY MECHANISM.

Federal oversight of education, healthcare, housing, and similar services shall prioritize transparency of outcomes, pricing, and performance over prescriptive operational requirements.

SEC. 302. NON-INTERFERENCE WITH VOLUNTARY EXCHANGE.

Nothing in this Act shall be construed to authorize Federal control over lawful voluntary transactions absent clear violation of intentional harm or natural rights.

SEC. 303. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this Act is held invalid, the remainder shall not be affected.

SEC. 304. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall take effect upon enactment.