

The Braided Economy Mandate

A Strategic Framework for Integrating Regenerative Principles into U.S. Digital Asset Legislation

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Executive Summary

This report provides a comprehensive analysis of H.R. 3633, the Digital Asset Market Clarity Act of 2025 (CLARITY Act), and presents a detailed strategy for integrating the core concepts of the Regenerative Civilization Protocol—specifically the Community-Hour (C-hour) and the "braided economy"—into this or subsequent legislation. The contemporary American economy faces systemic challenges, from demographic decline to the erosion of social capital, that are rooted in a fundamental failure to measure and value the non-market contributions that form the bedrock of society. The Regenerative Civilization Protocol offers a coherent architectural solution to this measurement problem, and the current legislative momentum around digital assets provides an unprecedented opportunity to codify its principles into law.

The CLARITY Act, having passed the U.S. House of Representatives with strong bipartisan support, represents a watershed moment and the most viable legislative vehicle for establishing a regulatory framework for novel digital assets.¹ Its primary function is to create legal certainty by delineating regulatory jurisdiction between the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC), primarily through the creation of a new legal category: the "digital commodity."

This report's central strategic recommendation is to leverage this legislative precedent by introducing a new, distinct legal category—the "Regenerative Asset" or "Contribution-Based Digital Asset." This approach recognizes that assets like the C-hour, which are designed to be non-speculative digital receipts for verified social and ecological contributions, are fundamentally different from both securities (which represent a claim on a common enterprise) and digital commodities (whose value is derived from the use of a blockchain network). Just as Congress passed and the President signed into law a bespoke regulatory regime for "payment stablecoins" via the GENIUS Act, a similar carve-out is both logical and necessary for this emerging class of pro-social assets.⁵⁴

The strategy outlined herein provides specific textual amendments to the CLARITY Act, a targeted advocacy campaign aimed at key legislators and committees, and a messaging framework designed to build upon the existing bipartisan coalition. By framing this initiative as an enhancement that strengthens consumer protection, fosters genuine American innovation, and provides market-based solutions to pressing social challenges, this framework offers a clear path to transforming the visionary principles of a regenerative economy into tangible, legally recognized reality.

Part I: The Legislative Landscape - The CLARITY Act and the U.S. Digital Asset Framework

Section 1.1: Genesis and Political Dynamics of H.R. 3633

The Digital Asset Market Clarity Act of 2025 (H.R. 3633), or CLARITY Act, represents the most significant and politically viable effort to date to establish a comprehensive regulatory framework for digital assets in the United States. Its emergence and progress through the House of Representatives are the culmination of years of industry advocacy and growing bipartisan consensus that the existing legal structures, designed for 20th-century financial markets, are inadequate for governing 21st-century blockchain technology.⁴

Legislative Intent and Key Architects

The CLARITY Act is a direct response to a prolonged period of regulatory ambiguity that has stifled innovation and left market participants navigating a fragmented and often contradictory legal landscape.⁴ The enforcement-centric approach of agencies like the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has created significant uncertainty, pushing capital and talent overseas.⁶ The stated purpose of the legislation is to remedy this by providing "clear rules of the road," primarily by delineating the respective jurisdictions of the SEC and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC).¹

The bill is the product of a crucial and deliberate collaboration between two powerful House committees: the Committee on Financial Services and the Committee on Agriculture. This dual

jurisdiction reflects the bill's core premise that some digital assets function like securities while others are more akin to commodities. The legislation was introduced by the respective chairmen of these committees, Representative J. French Hill (R-AR) of the Financial Services Committee and Representative Glenn "GT" Thompson (R-PA) of the Agriculture Committee.⁸ Their joint stewardship has been instrumental in navigating the complex political and procedural hurdles, ensuring the bill addresses the concerns of both financial market regulators and those overseeing commodity markets.

The Bipartisan Coalition and Political Momentum

The most significant political feature of the CLARITY Act is the robust bipartisan coalition that propelled its passage in the House of Representatives on July 17, 2025, by a decisive vote of 294 to 134.² The bill now moves to the Senate for consideration. The House majority included not only 216 Republicans but also 78 Democrats, signaling a broad, cross-party appetite for legislative action.³ An analysis of the bill's 21 cosponsors further illuminates the nature of this coalition, which unites pro-innovation, free-market Republicans with pragmatic, technology-forward Democrats.¹²

Key Republican supporters include House Majority Whip Tom Emmer (R-MN), a vocal advocate for the digital asset industry, and the respective subcommittee chairs responsible for digital assets: Rep. Dusty Johnson (R-SD) on the Agriculture Committee and Rep. Bryan Steil (R-WI) on the Financial Services Committee.¹² On the Democratic side, crucial support came from Agriculture Committee Ranking Member Angie Craig (D-MN) and influential members like Rep. Ritchie Torres (D-NY) and Rep. Josh Gottheimer (D-NJ), who have championed a balanced approach that fosters innovation while protecting consumers.¹²

This legislative momentum is amplified by clear support from the executive branch. The Trump Administration issued a Statement of Administration Policy endorsing the bill, framing it as a "pro-growth, pro-freedom framework" essential for reclaiming America's role as the "global capital of digital assets".²¹ This alignment between the legislative and executive branches dramatically increases the probability of the bill, or a reconciled version of it, being signed into law.

However, the political bargain that underpins this coalition is not without its tensions. Critics, including prominent consumer advocacy groups, argue that the CLARITY Act achieves its goal of "regulatory certainty for the crypto industry at the expense of consumer protection".²² The core of this critique is that the bill moves oversight for most digital assets from the SEC, which has a clear consumer and investor protection mandate, to the CFTC, an agency historically focused on derivatives markets and sophisticated institutional players.²² This dynamic, while securing industry and Republican support, creates a political vulnerability with the more

progressive, consumer-focused wing of the Democratic party.

This vulnerability presents a strategic opening. A legislative proposal centered on the C-hour—an asset that is inherently pro-social, non-speculative, and designed to empower communities—can be framed as a corrective measure. It offers a way to add a powerful consumer and community protection dimension to the bill, thereby strengthening its appeal to skeptical Democrats and broadening the bipartisan coalition. An amendment to recognize and regulate "Regenerative Assets" would not be a concession to the speculative crypto industry but a direct response to the bill's primary perceived weakness, making the overall legislative package more robust and politically resilient.

The following table identifies the key political actors whose support or opposition will determine the fate of any proposed amendments.

| Legislator Name | Party/State | Role | Key Committee(s) | Stated Position/Relevance |
|----------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Rep. J. French Hill | R-AR | Sponsor, Chairman | Financial Services | Primary architect of the bill; focused on creating a functional regulatory framework to foster U.S. innovation. ² |
| Rep. Glenn Thompson | R-PA | Sponsor, Chairman | Agriculture | Co-architect of the bill; focused on ensuring the CFTC has clear jurisdiction over digital commodities. ¹² |
| Rep. Tom Emmer | R-MN | Cosponsor, Majority Whip | Financial Services | Vocal crypto advocate; focused on |

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| | | | | preventing bureaucratic overreach and ensuring U.S. leadership. ⁶ |
| Rep. Dusty Johnson | R-SD | Cosponsor, Subcommittee Chair | Agriculture | Chairs the Subcommittee on Commodity Markets, Digital Assets, and Rural Development; key player in defining CFTC's role. ¹² |
| Rep. Bryan Steil | R-WI | Cosponsor, Subcommittee Chair | Financial Services | Chairs the Subcommittee on Digital Assets, Financial Technology, and Artificial Intelligence; key player in defining SEC's role. ¹² |
| Rep. Angie Craig | D-MN | Cosponsor, Ranking Member | Agriculture | Key Democratic supporter; provides bipartisan credibility and focus on how new tech impacts her constituents. ¹² |
| Rep. Ritchie Torres | D-NY | Cosponsor | Financial Services | Progressive but |

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| | | | | pro-innovation Democrat; influential voice on balancing technology with consumer welfare. ¹² |
| Rep. Josh Gottheimer | D-NJ | Cosponsor | Financial Services | Co-chair of the bipartisan Problem Solvers Caucus; represents the pragmatic center of the Democratic party. ¹² |
| Rep. Don Davis | D-NC | Cosponsor, Ranking Member | Agriculture | Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Commodity Markets, Digital Assets, and Rural Development; key Democratic voice on CFTC issues. ¹² |
| Rep. Maxine Waters | D-CA | Ranking Member | Financial Services | Historically skeptical of the digital asset industry; represents the consumer-protection wing of the Democratic |

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| | | | | party. ¹⁷ |
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Section 1.2: Core Architecture of the CLARITY Act

The CLARITY Act is a complex, nearly 250-page bill that fundamentally restructures U.S. financial law to accommodate digital assets.²⁹ Its architecture is built upon several core legal and conceptual innovations designed to create distinct regulatory pathways for different types of assets. Understanding this architecture is critical for identifying the precise entry points for legislative amendment.

Jurisdictional Bifurcation: SEC vs. CFTC

The central pillar of the Act is the division of regulatory authority over digital assets between the SEC and the CFTC.¹ This bifurcation is intended to end the "jurisdictional turf wars" that have created uncertainty for market participants.⁵ In broad terms, the CFTC is granted the "lion's share of jurisdiction" over the cash spot markets for a newly defined asset class, the "digital commodity".⁵ The SEC retains its traditional authority over digital assets that are structured and function as securities (e.g., a tokenized stock or bond). Crucially, the SEC also retains jurisdiction over the

investment contracts through which digital commodities may be initially offered and sold to the public.³⁰ This creates a dual regime where an asset's initial fundraising may be subject to securities law, while its subsequent trading is governed by commodities law.

The "Digital Commodity" Definition

The lynchpin of the entire framework is the new statutory definition of a "digital commodity," introduced in Section 103 of the Act. A digital commodity is defined as "a digital asset that is intrinsically linked to a blockchain system, and the value of which is derived from or is reasonably expected to be derived from the use of the blockchain system".³⁰ This definition is intentionally functional, focusing on the asset's connection to an underlying technology network. The definition then provides a long list of explicit exclusions, clarifying that traditional securities, derivatives, permitted payment stablecoins, and other regulated

financial instruments are

not digital commodities.⁵ This act of definition-by-exclusion is what grants the CFTC its new, expansive authority over the digital asset spot market.

The "Investment Contract Asset" and the Path to Decentralization

Perhaps the most significant legal innovation in the Act is the concept of an "investment contract asset," detailed in Section 201.³⁰ The bill codifies a legal theory long advocated by the industry: that a digital asset sold as part of an investment contract (and thus subject to the SEC's

Howey test) is not inherently a security itself.¹ This bifurcation allows an asset to be sold initially under the SEC's disclosure-based regime but later trade as a commodity under the CFTC's market-conduct regime, provided its underlying network becomes sufficiently decentralized.³⁰

This creates a formal, multi-year "path to decentralization" for digital asset projects. Title II of the Act lays out a detailed process for issuers to conduct exempt offerings of up to \$50 million, subject to ongoing disclosure requirements to the SEC.²³ These requirements persist until the project's network can be certified as a "mature blockchain system," defined in Section 205 as a system that is "not controlled by any person or group of persons under common control".³⁰ Once a system achieves this certified state of decentralization, the ongoing SEC reporting requirements terminate, restrictions on sales by project insiders are relaxed, and the associated digital asset is treated more clearly as a CFTC-regulated commodity.¹

This entire pathway, however, is built on the implicit assumption that a digital asset begins its life as a centralized project, typically backed by a corporate entity and venture capital, and *evolves* toward decentralization over time. This model is a poor fit for the economic architecture proposed in the Regenerative Civilization Protocol. The C-hour system is not designed to be launched by a for-profit issuer that later relinquishes control; it is designed to be a community-governed public utility from its inception, managed by a Decentralized Autonomous Organization (DAO) in which the "issuers" are the community members themselves earning C-hours through their contributions.³³ Forcing this model into the CLARITY Act's issuer-centric "path to decentralization" would be incongruous and administratively burdensome. This mismatch necessitates the creation of an alternative pathway—a "path for the already decentralized"—that recognizes and provides a streamlined regulatory process for assets that are non-speculative and community-governed from day

one.

Safe Harbors for Decentralized Finance (DeFi)

Recognizing the unique nature of decentralized protocols, the Act includes crucial safe harbor provisions in Sections 309 and 409.¹ These sections exempt persons from registration as intermediaries (with the SEC or CFTC) if their activities are limited to non-custodial functions like developing and publishing software, validating transactions, providing user interfaces, or participating in a "decentralized governance system".¹ This language is strategically vital, as it provides a strong legal basis for protecting the community members and developers who maintain the C-hour's "Weaver Protocol" and its governing DAO from being misclassified as financial institutions.³³

Section 1.3: The Senate Horizon and Competing Frameworks

While the CLARITY Act's passage in the House marks a major milestone, its path to becoming law requires passage through the Senate, where a different political and legislative landscape exists. The Senate's approach to digital asset regulation, while sharing the same overarching goals, differs in key respects that will necessitate significant negotiation and compromise.

The Senate Counterpart: The Responsible Financial Innovation Act (RFIA)

The primary legislative counterpart in the Senate is the Responsible Financial Innovation Act (RFIA). Originally introduced in a previous Congress by Senators Cynthia Lummis (R-WY) and Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY), a discussion draft of a new version is now being circulated by Senate Banking Committee leadership, including Chairman Tim Scott (R-SC).³ Like CLARITY, the RFIA seeks to establish a comprehensive regulatory framework and divide jurisdiction between the SEC and CFTC.³

However, the two bills diverge on a critical point of emphasis. The CLARITY Act, favored by the industry, is generally seen as pushing more digital assets into the CFTC-regulated "digital commodity" category by default.³ In contrast, the RFIA framework appears to delegate more discretionary power to the SEC to determine which assets, termed "ancillary assets," are

not securities, potentially allowing the SEC to retain broader oversight of the digital asset ecosystem.³ The RFIA also contains more detailed provisions addressing a wider range of issues, including the tax treatment of digital assets, the legal status of DAOs, and a comprehensive framework for stablecoins.³⁶

These differences are not merely technical; they reflect different regulatory philosophies. The eventual negotiation to reconcile the House and Senate versions will be a complex process. Senate Democrats, who hold "outsized leverage" in any negotiation, are expected to push for stronger consumer protection measures, echoing the critiques leveled against the CLARITY Act.³ This dynamic creates a favorable environment for introducing amendments focused on pro-social, non-speculative assets, as they directly address a key point of concern for the Democratic caucus.

The "Carve-Out" Precedent: The GENIUS Act

The legislative environment for digital assets was profoundly shaped by the recent enactment of S. 1582, the Guiding and Establishing National Innovation for U.S. Stablecoins Act (GENIUS Act).² This landmark legislation passed both chambers with strong bipartisan support and was signed into law by the President on July 18, 2025.⁵⁴ It establishes the first comprehensive federal regulatory framework for "payment stablecoins"—digital assets designed to maintain a stable value pegged to a fiat currency.³⁸

The success of the GENIUS Act provides a powerful legislative precedent and a strategic template. Instead of attempting to fit stablecoins into the existing securities or commodities frameworks, Congress created a bespoke, "carve-out" regime for this specific class of asset.³⁹ The Act defines "payment stablecoin" narrowly and assigns primary regulatory authority not to the SEC or CFTC, but to federal and state banking regulators, recognizing that these assets function more like payment instruments than investments.³⁸

This approach demonstrates that Congress is both willing and able to create new, tailored regulatory lanes for distinct classes of digital assets with unique functions and risk profiles. This legislative strategy can and should be replicated for the C-hour. The core argument becomes a logical extension of a proven success: "Just as Congress correctly identified that payment stablecoins are fundamentally different from speculative crypto-assets and created a specific banking-centric framework for them, it must also recognize that 'regenerative assets' are fundamentally different from both stablecoins and speculative commodities. Their purpose is not payment or investment, but the valuation of social contribution, and they therefore require their own unique, light-touch regulatory framework." Framing the proposal in this manner presents it not as a radical departure, but as a consistent and logical continuation

of a successful legislative strategy that Congress has already endorsed.

Part II: The Regenerative Civilization Protocol - A Paradigm Analysis for Policymakers

To effectively integrate the concepts of the Regenerative Civilization Protocol into federal legislation, it is essential to translate its foundational principles from a theoretical framework into the pragmatic language of public policy. The Protocol's core ideas—the "Braided Economy" and the "Community-Hour"—are not merely abstract ideals but are presented as concrete solutions to measurable, systemic risks confronting the U.S. economy and society.

Section 2.1: Deconstructing the "Braided Economy"

The "Braided Economics" model is proposed as a structural upgrade to the current economic operating system.³³ It addresses what the Protocol identifies as capitalism's "foundational flaw": its reliance on an "incomplete ledger" that measures and rewards only market transactions while treating the foundational work of care, community-building, and ecological stewardship as cost-free inputs to be exploited.³³

The "Incomplete Ledger" as a Systemic Risk

From a policy perspective, this "incomplete ledger" can be framed as a series of massive, uncorrected negative externalities that generate long-term systemic risk. When the economic system fails to value the work of raising the next generation, it creates a perverse incentive structure that contributes directly to demographic decline—a phenomenon observed in all advanced capitalist societies and a direct threat to long-term economic growth and the solvency of social safety nets.³³ Similarly, when the system fails to value the social cohesion built through volunteering and civic engagement, it contributes to the erosion of social capital, leading to political polarization and an epidemic of loneliness.³³

The Braided Economy model addresses this by formally separating the economic system into two distinct but interwoven spheres³³:

1. **The Financial Economy:** This sphere utilizes conventional currency and market incentives to drive innovation, large-scale projects, and commerce. It is the engine of material production.³³
2. **The Reciprocity Economy:** This parallel sphere utilizes the Community-Hour (C-hour) to formally measure, value, and reward the regenerative work that the financial economy ignores. It is the engine of social and ecological well-being.³³

By creating a dedicated mechanism to invest in the "social software" of society, the Braided Economy insulates core human needs from market volatility and creates a self-reinforcing cycle of prosperity and resilience.³³

The Reciprocity Economy as Digital Public Infrastructure

For policymakers, the Reciprocity Economy can be understood as a novel form of **digital public infrastructure**. Its purpose is to produce and maintain public goods—such as strong families, cohesive communities, and a healthy environment—that the traditional market is structurally ill-equipped to provide. Initiatives proposed within the Protocol, such as the "Caregiver's Dividend" (an automatic issuance of C-hours to caregivers) and the "Civic Stipend" (C-hours awarded for participation in local governance), are not welfare programs.³³ Rather, they are market-based mechanisms to compensate essential work that currently goes unrewarded, thereby strengthening the foundational pillars of the economy. This framing is designed to appeal to both sides of the political aisle: it offers a market-oriented, non-bureaucratic solution to social problems, while also directly addressing core progressive goals of equity and valuing care work.

Section 2.2: The Community-Hour (C-hour) as a Novel Asset Class

The Community-Hour (C-hour) is the cornerstone of the Reciprocity Economy. It is a digital token representing one hour of verified contribution to community well-being, recorded on a transparent blockchain ledger.³³ To secure a viable place in U.S. law, it must be legally classified in a way that recognizes its unique nature and purpose.

Defining Characteristics for Legal Analysis

The C-hour is defined by a unique combination of attributes that distinguish it from all other forms of digital assets ³³:

- **Unit of Account:** Its fundamental unit is an hour of human time and effort, not a speculative value. Its principle is one of radical equality: one hour of elder care is valued the same as one hour of mentoring.³³
- **Non-Speculative by Design:** The C-hour system is designed to be a stable measure of contribution. Its utility and redemption value are underwritten by the real-world assets of a community-owned Sovereign Wealth Fund (SWF), insulating it from market speculation.³³
- **Issuance Mechanism:** C-hours are *earned* through verified regenerative activities. They are not sold in an initial coin offering (ICO), airdropped to create hype, or mined through proof-of-work. They are issued as direct compensation for recognized contributions.³³
- **Purpose:** The C-hour's sole purpose is to make the invisible economy of care and community stewardship visible, valued, and rewarded. It is not intended to be a general-purpose currency for commerce or an investment vehicle for generating financial returns.³³

Argument for a Unique Legal Classification

Given these characteristics, the C-hour fits poorly into any of the existing or proposed legal categories for digital assets ³³:

- **It is Not a Security:** A C-hour fails the *Howey* test, the long-standing Supreme Court precedent for defining an investment contract. There is no "investment of money" in a "common enterprise" with an "expectation of profits to be derived solely from the efforts of the promoter or a third party".⁴ The value received by a C-hour earner is a direct result of their own work and the collective work of their community, not the managerial efforts of a separate entity.
- **It is Not a CLARITY "Digital Commodity":** While it uses a blockchain, its value is not primarily "derived from... the use of the blockchain system" itself, as required by the CLARITY Act's definition.³⁰ Its value is derived from the tangible, off-chain human labor it represents—the act of caring for a child, cleaning a park, or participating in a town meeting. The blockchain is merely the accounting tool, not the source of value.
- **It is Not a GENIUS "Payment Stablecoin":** It is not pegged to a fiat currency and is not designed to be used as a general means of payment or settlement in the wider economy.³⁹ Its utility is primarily within the community's reciprocity ecosystem.

Therefore, the most logical and legally sound approach is to argue for the creation of a new, distinct asset class. The C-hour and similar instruments should be legally defined as **"Regenerative Assets"** or **"Contribution-Based Digital Assets."** This classification, as proposed in the Protocol's strategic appendix, would formally define them as "a digital receipt for verified socio-ecological contributions," distinguishing them from speculative assets and creating the basis for a tailored, light-touch regulatory regime that fosters their growth while ensuring accountability and public trust.³³

Part III: A Strategic Framework for Legislative Integration

With a clear understanding of the legislative landscape and the unique nature of the C-hour, a precise and actionable strategy can be formulated. This strategy focuses on identifying specific entry points within the CLARITY Act, drafting concrete legislative language for a "Regenerative Asset" amendment, and executing a multi-pronged advocacy campaign to build the necessary political support.

Section 3.1: Strategic Entry Points within the CLARITY Act

The text of H.R. 3633, as passed by the House, offers several strategic opportunities for amendment. The most effective interventions will be those that leverage the bill's existing structure and logic rather than attempting a wholesale rewrite.

Leveraging Title I: The Definitional Core

The primary and most impactful entry point is Title I of the Act, which establishes the foundational definitions that govern the entire regulatory framework.³¹ Amending the definitions in Sections 101 (amending the Securities Act), 102 (amending the Securities Exchange Act), and 103 (amending the Commodity Exchange Act) is the most direct way to create a legal space for Regenerative Assets.

The optimal strategy is not to try and shoehorn the C-hour into the definition of "digital

commodity." Doing so would subject it to a market-oriented regulatory regime designed for speculative assets, which would be inappropriate and burdensome. Instead, the proposal should be to amend the definition of "digital commodity" in Section 103 to add a new sub-clause that explicitly *excludes* "Regenerative Assets" from its scope. This maneuver achieves two goals: it prevents the misapplication of commodity laws to the C-hour and creates a clear legal necessity for a separate, parallel regulatory framework. This approach is strategically superior because it argues for precision and appropriateness in regulation, a principle that resonates with lawmakers.

Utilizing the DeFi and Decentralized Governance Safe Harbors

The safe harbors for decentralized finance (DeFi) activities in Sections 309 and 409 are exceptionally favorable to the Regenerative Civilization Protocol's architecture.³¹ The language exempting persons who develop software or participate in a "decentralized governance system" provides a strong defensive shield for the community-run DAO that would govern the C-hour ecosystem.³³ The advocacy strategy must consistently emphasize that the C-hour protocol falls squarely within the spirit and letter of these exemptions. The argument should be that regulation must target the

asset and its unique characteristics, not the decentralized, non-custodial *protocol* that facilitates its issuance and accounting. This aligns with the bill's intent to foster innovation by not penalizing developers and community participants who do not control user funds.

A Secondary Pathway: Influencing the Rulemaking Process

The CLARITY Act mandates numerous joint rulemakings by the SEC and CFTC to implement its provisions, most of which must be completed within 360 days of enactment.³¹ Section 105, for example, requires joint rules to further define key terms like "decentralized governance system" and "digital commodity".³¹ This implementation phase represents a critical secondary front for advocacy. Even if the legislative text is not amended, a concerted effort to engage with the agencies during the public comment period for these rulemakings could achieve similar ends. The goal would be to persuade the regulators to use their delegated authority to create a specific carve-out, interpretive guidance, or a light-touch registration process for non-speculative, contribution-based assets. While less permanent than a statutory change, this administrative approach can be a powerful and more immediate way to achieve regulatory clarity.

Section 3.2: Crafting the "Regenerative Asset" Amendment

To move from strategy to action, it is essential to provide policymakers with concrete, well-drafted legislative language. This demonstrates sophistication and significantly lowers the barrier for a supportive legislator's office to adopt the proposal.

Proposed Legislative Language

The core of the amendment package would consist of three parts: a new definition, an exclusionary clause, and a new regulatory section.

1. **New Definition:** A new paragraph would be proposed for insertion into the definitions sections of the relevant Acts (e.g., Sec. 103 of H.R. 3633, amending the Commodity Exchange Act): "**REGENERATIVE ASSET.**—*The term 'regenerative asset' means a digital asset that (A) serves as a digital receipt representing a verified, non-financial contribution of time or resources to community, ecological, or social well-being; (B) is earned by a user through such verified contributions and is not offered to the public through an investment contract with the expectation of profit derived from the managerial efforts of a promoter or third party; (C) is not designed to maintain a stable value relative to a national currency for the purpose of being used as a means of payment or settlement; and (D) is governed by a decentralized governance system.*"
2. **Exclusionary Clause:** The definition of "digital commodity" in Section 103(a) of H.R. 3633 would be amended by inserting a new sub-clause into the list of exclusions: "*The term 'digital commodity' does not include... (IX) a regenerative asset.*"
3. **New Regulatory Section:** A new, concise Title would be proposed for the Act (e.g., "TITLE VI—REGULATION OF REGENERATIVE ASSETS"). This title would grant the CFTC (or another appropriate body) authority to establish a light-touch registration and oversight framework for the protocols that issue these assets. This framework would not focus on market surveillance but on:
 - **Integrity of Contribution Verification:** Ensuring the mechanisms for verifying and rewarding contributions are transparent and robust.
 - **Governance Transparency:** Requiring public disclosure of the rules and operations of the governing DAO.
 - **Consumer Protection:** Establishing clear standards for the redemption of assets for goods, services, or benefits as promised by the protocol.

The following tables are designed as educational and advocacy tools to clearly articulate the

necessity and specifics of this proposal for policymakers and their staff.

Table 2: Comparative Analysis of Digital Asset Classifications

| Feature | Security (per <i>Howey</i> Test) | Payment Stablecoin (GENIUS Act) | Digital Commodity (CLARITY Act) | Proposed: Regenerative Asset |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Primary Purpose | Capital formation; investment | Means of payment; store of value | Access/use of a blockchain network; speculation | To measure and reward social/ecological contribution |
| Value Derivation | Future profits from efforts of others | Peg to a fiat currency (e.g., USD) | Use and functioning of the underlying blockchain system | Verified off-chain human work; community well-being |
| Issuance Method | Sale of an investment contract | Issued by a regulated depository institution against reserves | Mined, staked, or sold by a project issuer | Earned via verified contributions (e.g., caregiving, volunteering) |
| Expectation of Profit | Yes (Primary motivation) | No (Designed for stability) | Yes (Typically held with expectation of appreciation) | No (Value is in utility and social recognition) |
| Appropriate Regulator | SEC | Federal/State Banking Regulators | CFTC | CFTC (under a new, light-touch regime) |
| Key Risks | Investor fraud; lack of disclosure | Run risk; reserve mismanagement | Market manipulation; volatility | Integrity of contribution verification; governance |

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Table 3: Proposed Amendments to H.R. 3633, The CLARITY Act

| Section of H.R. 3633 | Current Language (Summary) | Proposed New/Amended Language | Strategic Rationale |
|--|---|---|---|
| Sec. 103(a) (amending CEA §1a) | Defines "digital commodity" and lists exclusions (securities, stablecoins, etc.). | Add a new sub-clause to the exclusions: "(IX) a <i>regenerative asset</i> ." | Legally separates regenerative assets from speculative commodities, preventing the application of an inappropriate regulatory regime and creating the need for a new one. |
| Sec. 103(a) (amending CEA §1a) | No current definition of a regenerative or contribution-based asset. | Add a new paragraph defining "regenerative asset" as a digital receipt for verified, non-financial social/ecological contributions. | Creates a clear, positive legal definition for the C-hour and similar assets, anchoring their regulation in their pro-social purpose rather than financial characteristics. |
| New Title VI | The Act currently has five titles. | Add a new "TITLE VI—REGISTRATION AND OVERSIGHT OF REGENERATIVE ASSET PROTOCOLS." | Establishes a bespoke, light-touch regulatory framework appropriate for non-speculative, community-governed systems, modeled on the |

| | | | |
|---------------------------|--|--|---|
| | | | successful "carve-out" strategy of the GENIUS Act. |
| Sec. 309 & 409 | Provide safe harbors for non-custodial DeFi activities and "decentralized governance systems." | Add clarifying language: <i>"For the avoidance of doubt, a decentralized governance system that oversees the issuance and accounting of a regenerative asset shall be covered by the exclusions provided in this section."</i> | Proactively reinforces the application of these crucial safe harbors to the C-hour's governing DAO, protecting community participants from being misclassified as financial intermediaries. |

Section 3.3: A Multi-Pronged Advocacy and Engagement Strategy

A sophisticated legislative proposal requires an equally sophisticated strategy for advocacy and political engagement. The objective is to build upon the existing bipartisan coalition for the CLARITY Act by demonstrating that the "Regenerative Asset" amendment strengthens the bill, addresses key concerns, and aligns with the core principles of both parties.

Navigating the Legislative Process

The strategy must be timed to key inflection points in the U.S. legislative process.⁴² Since H.R. 3633 has already passed the House, the primary opportunities for amendment now lie in the Senate. The process will involve:

1. **Senate Committee Referral:** The bill will be referred to the relevant Senate committees, likely the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

2. **Committee Markup:** This is the most critical stage, where committee members debate and vote on amendments. This is the prime opportunity to have a sponsor introduce the "Regenerative Asset" amendment package.
3. **Senate Floor Vote:** If reported out of committee, the bill is debated and voted on by the full Senate.
4. **Conference Committee:** If the Senate passes a version of the bill that differs from the House version, a conference committee will be formed to negotiate a final, reconciled text. This is another key opportunity to ensure the amendment is included in the final bill.
5. **Final Passage and Presidential Signature:** Both chambers must pass the identical conference report before it is sent to the President to be signed into law.⁴⁵

Targeted Legislative Outreach

The advocacy campaign must focus on the key legislators and stakeholders identified in Table 1, with messaging tailored to their specific political priorities and constituencies.

- **For Republicans (e.g., Hill, Thompson, Johnson, Emmer):** The messaging will emphasize **innovation, U.S. leadership, and free-market solutions to social challenges**. The C-hour will be framed as a tool that empowers **individual and community self-reliance** without creating new government welfare programs.³³ It is a mechanism to strengthen civil society and reward the foundational work of families and communities—themes that align with conservative principles. The argument will be that creating a clear legal category for these assets is essential to ensuring this type of pro-social innovation happens in America.
- **For Democrats (e.g., Craig, Torres, Gottheimer, Davis):** The messaging will focus on **equity, consumer protection, and valuing uncompensated labor**. The C-hour will be presented as a concrete policy tool to address the gender and racial inequities inherent in the "care economy," which disproportionately relies on the unpaid labor of women and women of color.³³ It will be framed as a way to correct the "incomplete ledger of capitalism" and provide a pathway to a "Universal Adequate Income" that rewards contribution, not just subsistence.³³ This directly addresses the concerns of consumer advocates that the CLARITY Act is too industry-focused.²²

Grassroots Constituent Engagement

Elected officials are ultimately accountable to their constituents—the individuals who reside in their district and whom they represent.⁴⁷ A powerful component of the strategy is to mobilize

grassroots support within the districts of key committee members. This involves:

1. **Identifying Local Partners:** Mapping and engaging with local non-profits, caregiving organizations (for children and the elderly), community volunteer groups, and environmental stewardship organizations in target districts.
2. **Educating and Empowering Constituents:** Providing these groups with simple, clear materials explaining how the "Regenerative Asset" proposal would formally value and support their work.
3. **Facilitating Contact:** Guiding constituents on how to effectively contact their representatives. This includes providing contact information, sample scripts for phone calls, and templates for emails, leveraging official resources like House.gov and Senate.gov.⁵⁰ The strategy will emphasize that personal stories about the importance of care and community work are far more impactful than generic statements.⁵³ This campaign transforms an abstract policy proposal into a tangible local issue that legislators cannot ignore.

This multi-pronged approach—combining sophisticated policy drafting, targeted high-level advocacy, and authentic grassroots engagement—provides the most robust pathway for integrating the principles of the regenerative economy into the foundation of America's emerging digital asset framework.

Conclusion and Prioritized Recommendations

The United States is at a critical juncture in defining the future of its digital economy. The Digital Asset Market Clarity Act of 2025, having now passed the House of Representatives, represents a monumental step toward establishing a functional regulatory framework. However, as it moves to the Senate for consideration, it remains incomplete in its current form. It successfully creates a lane for speculative "digital commodities" but fails to envision or provide for a new class of digital assets designed not for financial speculation, but for social and ecological regeneration. This omission is not merely a technical oversight; it is a missed opportunity to embed principles of equity, community well-being, and sustainability into the next generation of our economic infrastructure.

The analysis in this report demonstrates that a clear strategic pathway exists to correct this. By leveraging the legislative precedent of the newly enacted GENIUS Act's "carve-out" for stablecoins and addressing the political vulnerabilities of the CLARITY Act around consumer protection, a compelling case can be made for establishing a new legal category of "Regenerative Assets." The Community-Hour, as envisioned in the Regenerative Civilization Protocol, is the archetype for this new class of asset—one that is earned through contribution, governed by its community, and dedicated to making the foundational work of

society visible and valued.

Integrating this concept into law is not only feasible but strategically advantageous. It strengthens the CLARITY Act's bipartisan coalition by appealing to the core principles of both parties, transforming it from a bill focused primarily on market structure into one that also champions community structure. The path forward requires a disciplined, multi-faceted effort that combines precise legal drafting with targeted political advocacy and authentic grassroots mobilization.

The following prioritized recommendations provide an actionable roadmap for achieving this strategic objective:

1. **Secure a Legislative Champion:** The immediate priority is to identify and secure a champion in the U.S. Senate—ideally a member of the Banking or Agriculture committees—to introduce the "Regenerative Asset" amendment package during the committee markup process. A bipartisan pair of sponsors would be the ideal scenario.
2. **Initiate Targeted Outreach to Key House and Senate Members:** Begin a concerted outreach campaign to the key legislators and committee staff identified in this report. This engagement should use the tailored messaging frameworks outlined, presenting the proposal as a pro-innovation, pro-community enhancement to the existing legislation.
3. **Launch a Pilot Constituent Engagement Program:** Select the districts of two to three high-priority members of the relevant Senate committees and launch a pilot program to mobilize local non-profits, caregiving networks, and community organizations. The goal is to generate direct constituent communication with these Senate offices, demonstrating tangible, grassroots support for valuing and rewarding regenerative work.
4. **Formalize and Distribute the Legal and Economic Analysis:** Finalize a public-facing version of the legal and economic analysis of the C-hour and the "Regenerative Asset" classification. This document should be submitted to the staff of the key congressional committees and, in parallel, to the SEC and CFTC to begin influencing the forthcoming rulemaking process that would be mandated if the CLARITY Act becomes law.

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Appendixes:

1. Key players in the Senate regarding digital asset legislation

Here is a breakdown of the key players in the Senate regarding digital asset legislation, their states, and a strategy for how you can introduce the concepts from your "Regenerative Civilization Protocol" into the legislative conversation.

Understanding the Landscape: Key Senators and Committees

While the CLARITY Act (H.R. 3633) is a House bill, its components and similar legislative

efforts are very much on the radar of the Senate. The primary committees with jurisdiction over this area are the **Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs** and the **Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry**.

Here are some of the most influential senators in the digital asset space, who will be critical for any future legislation:

Key Senators to Watch:

- **Cynthia Lummis (Wyoming):** A leading Republican voice on digital assets and financial innovation. She is a co-sponsor of the Lummis-Gillibrand Responsible Financial Innovation Act, a comprehensive crypto regulation bill.
- **Kirsten Gillibrand (New York):** A key Democratic sponsor of the Lummis-Gillibrand bill. Her involvement is crucial for building bipartisan support.
- **Tim Scott (South Carolina):** The Ranking Member of the Senate Banking Committee, his support is essential for any legislation to move forward.
- **Elizabeth Warren (Massachusetts):** A prominent critic of the cryptocurrency industry, she is a powerful voice on the Banking Committee. Understanding her concerns about consumer protection and financial stability is key to crafting effective arguments.
- **John Boozman (Arkansas):** The Ranking Member of the Senate Agriculture Committee, which has jurisdiction over digital commodities.
- **Amy Klobuchar (Minnesota):** A member of the Agriculture Committee who has shown interest in the policy implications of new technologies.
- **Bill Hagerty (Tennessee):** A member of the Banking Committee who is generally supportive of financial innovation.
- **Bernie Moreno (Ohio):** A newer member of the Senate who has expressed pro-crypto sentiments.

How to Target Your Efforts: Constituents and "Prefectures"

In the United States, a Senator's "prefecture" is their entire state. Their constituents are all the residents of that state. The most effective way to influence a senator is to have their own constituents contact them.

Your Action Plan:

1. **Identify the Key States:** Focus your efforts on the constituents of the senators listed above, especially those on the key committees. The states to prioritize are: Wyoming, New York, South Carolina, Massachusetts, Arkansas, Minnesota, Tennessee, and Ohio.
2. **Find and Contact Officials:** You can find the contact information for any U.S. Senator on the official [Senate website](#). The best way to engage is to have constituents from their state:
 - **Call their offices:** This is often the most effective way to get your message heard.

- **Write personalized emails or letters:** Clearly and concisely explain your position.
- **Request meetings with their staff:** This is a good way to have a more in-depth conversation.

Integrating Your Vision: The "C-Hour" and Regenerative Economy

Your "Regenerative Civilization Protocol" presents a visionary framework. The key to introducing these ideas into the current legislative debate is to connect them to the existing goals and concerns of policymakers.

Strategic Framing:

When contacting senators and their staff, you should frame your proposals not as a radical overhaul, but as innovative solutions to the problems they are already trying to solve.

- **Focus on Financial Inclusion and Innovation:** Frame the "C-hour" and the "braided economy" as a way to promote financial inclusion, empower individuals, and foster a more resilient and innovative economy. This will appeal to pro-innovation senators like Lummis, Gillibrand, and Hagerty.
- **Address Concerns About Financial Stability:** When engaging with more skeptical senators like Warren, emphasize how the "regenerative economy" model can create a more stable and equitable financial system. Highlight the potential for the "C-hour" to provide a safety net and reduce systemic risk.
- **Connect to Existing Legislative Language:** The CLARITY Act and other bills are focused on defining what a digital asset is and how it should be regulated. You can propose that a new category of "community-based digital assets" or "regenerative assets" be created, with the "C-hour" as a prime example. This would allow for a more tailored regulatory approach that encourages innovation while still protecting consumers.

Proposed Legal and Policy Hooks:

- **Propose a "Regulatory Sandbox" for Regenerative Economic Models:** Suggest that a pilot program be included in a future bill to test the "C-hour" and other regenerative economic models in a controlled environment. This would allow policymakers to gather data and assess the real-world impact of your proposals.
- **Link to the "Howey Test":** The "Howey Test" is a legal framework used to determine if something is a security. You can argue that "C-hours" do not meet the criteria of the Howey Test and therefore should not be regulated as securities. This is a central theme in the CLARITY Act and a key concern for the industry.
- **Emphasize Bipartisan Appeal:** The concepts of community empowerment, economic resilience, and rewarding civic contributions have broad appeal.

Frame your proposals in a way that can attract support from both sides of the aisle.

By strategically targeting the key senators and framing your visionary ideas in a way that connects with their existing priorities, you can begin to build the support necessary to integrate the principles of a regenerative economy into the future of digital asset regulation.