

H. R. 14.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

May, 2021

Mrs. Kelly (For herself, Mr. Hoff and Mr. Gimenez,) introduced the following legislation.

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from conducting medical research causing significant pain or distress to cats.

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 “Cat Abuse in Testing Stops Act of 2021” or the “CATS Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL RESEARCH CAUSING SIGNIFICANT PAIN OR DISTRESS TO CATS.

(a) In General.—

“(e)(1) In carrying out research, the Secretary may not purchase, breed, transport, house, feed, maintain, dispose of, or experiment on cats as part of the conduct of any study that causes significant pain or distress.

“(2) In this subsection, the term ‘study that causes significant pain or distress’ includes any study classified to pain category D or E by the Department of Agriculture (or such successor categories developed pursuant to section 13 of the Animal Welfare Act ([7 U.S.C. 2143](#))).”.

(b) Effective Date.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act.