

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8471

To amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to prohibit the importation on nonhuman primates.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 23, 2026

Mr. STEUBE (for himself, Ms. TITUS, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, and Mr. CARSON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to prohibit the importation on nonhuman primates.

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 “Preventing Risky Im-
5 portation of Monkeys to Avoid Toxic Exposures Act” or
6 the “PRIMATE Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON IMPORTATION OF NONHUMAN**
8 **PRIMATES.**

9 Title III of the Tariff Act of 1930 is amended by
10 inserting after section 308 (19 U.S.C. 1308) the following:

1 **“SEC. 308A. PROHIBITION ON IMPORTATION OF**
2 **NONHUMAN PRIMATES.**

3 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

4 “(1) the term ‘AZA-accredited facility’ means a
5 facility accredited by the Association of Zoos and
6 Aquariums (AZA);

7 “(2) the term ‘nonhuman primate’ means any
8 live member of the taxonomic order Primates other
9 than *Homo sapiens*;

10 “(3) the term ‘person’ includes any individual,
11 partnership, corporation, association, organization,
12 business trust, government entity, or other entity
13 subject to the jurisdiction of the United States;

14 “(4) the term ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary
15 of the Treasury; and

16 “(5) the term ‘United States’ means the cus-
17 toms territory of the United States, as defined in
18 general note 2 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of
19 the United States.

20 “(b) PROHIBITION.—Notwithstanding any other pro-
21 vision of law, and except as provided in subsection (c),
22 it shall be unlawful for any person to import into the
23 United States any nonhuman primate.

24 “(c) EXCEPTION.—This section shall not apply to the
25 importation of a nonhuman primate—

1 “(1) by, and for placement with, an AZA-ac-
2 credited facility; and

3 “(2) with respect to which the importer certifies
4 that the nonhuman primate will not be transferred,
5 sold, leased, or otherwise provided for use in experi-
6 ments or testing, or for breeding for use in experi-
7 ments or testing.

8 “(d) ENFORCEMENT.—U.S. Customs and Border
9 Protection shall deny clearance for any shipment for im-
10 portation into the United States containing a nonhuman
11 primate as prohibited by subsection (b).

12 “(e) PENALTIES.—

13 “(1) CIVIL PENALTIES.—Any person who vio-
14 lates any provision of this section or any regulation
15 issued under this section may, in addition to any
16 other civil or criminal penalty that may be imposed
17 under title 18, United States Code, or any other
18 provision of law, be assessed a civil penalty by the
19 Secretary of not more than \$50,000 for each viola-
20 tion of this section.

21 “(2) FORFEITURE.—Any nonhuman primate
22 imported into the United States contrary to the pro-
23 visions of this section or any regulation issued under
24 this section shall be subject to forfeiture to the
25 United States.

1 “(f) REGULATIONS.—Not later than one year after
2 the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary
3 shall, after notice and opportunity for comment, issue reg-
4 ulations to carry out the provisions of this section.”.

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