

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3197

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

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 12, 2017

Mr. BRAT (for himself, Ms. TITUS, Mr. MAST, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. DONOVAN, and Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

---

## 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 dogs.

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 Unkind and  
5       Painful Procedures and Experiments on Respected Spe-  
6       cies Act of 2017” or the “PUPPERS Act of 2017”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AF-**  
2 **FAIRS MEDICAL RESEARCH CAUSING SIG-**  
3 **NIFICANT PAIN OR DISTRESS TO DOGS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7303 of title 38, United  
5 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
6 lowing new subsection:

7 “(e)(1) In carrying out research, the Secretary may  
8 not purchase, breed, transport, house, feed, maintain, dis-  
9 pose of, or experiment on dogs as part of the conduct of  
10 any study that causes significant pain or distress.

11 “(2) In this subsection, the term ‘study that causes  
12 significant pain or distress’—

13 “(A) includes any study classified to pain cat-  
14 egory D or E by the Department of Agriculture; and

15 “(B) does not include any physical exam, train-  
16 ing program, or study relating to service or working  
17 dogs.”.

18 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
19 subsection (a) shall take effect 90 days after the date of  
20 enactment of this Act.

○