

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 8867

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.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 3, 2020

Ms. TITUS (for herself, Mr. MAST, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. COHEN, Ms. SHALALA, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. HARDER of California, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. NORTON, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. NADLER, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. ESHOO, and Mr. HURD of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## 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.

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 “Cat Abuse in Testing  
5 Stops Act of 2020” or the “CATS Act of 2020”.

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

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 cats 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’ includes any study classified  
13 to pain category D or E by the Department of Agriculture  
14 (or such successor categories developed pursuant to sec-  
15 tion 13 of the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. 2143)).”.

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

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