

Harvard Model Congress Boston 2024

Senate C February 24, 2024

Presiding: Sharon Tang and Emma Jing

S.4 - Reintegrating Veterans Into Society

S.5 - R.E.G.E.L. ACT

S.6 - Educate the Incarcerated Act

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S.4 Reintegrating Veterans Into Society

Whereas congress seeks to help veterans establish their lives without ending up on the streets; Whereas bipartisan bill shall establish military communities funded by the military housing assistance fund (MHAF); Whereas these communities shall include specialists and scaled housing assistance over five years; Whereas hope this bill will encourage more people to join the military, and help keep our brave veterans off our streets; therefore,

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

(a) This act can be cited as the "Veteran Reintegration Act."

SEC. 2. ESTABLISHING VETERAN COMMUNITIES.

- (a) After 5 years past the last year of service, veterans shall be encouraged, *not required*, to move into veterans' communities:
 - (i) 50% of the community housing shall be absorbed the first year past service;
 - (ii) 40% of the community housing shall be absorbed the second year past service;
 - (iii) 30% of the community housing shall be absorbed the third year past service;
 - (iv) 15% of the community housing shall be absorbed the fourth year past service; and,
 - (v) 5% of the community housing shall be absorbed the fifth year past service.
- (b) Mental health professionals, job consultants, and rehabilitation groups shall be employed in these veterans' communities to establish a sense of community:
 - (i) Mental health professionals shall provide 24/7 care in communities to help veterans recover from any mental illness, such as PTSD, acquired during service:
 - (1) Professionals shall include physicians, psychiatrists, and psychologists.
 - (ii) Job consultants shall work with the veterans to help them find a job and set them up for success once they move on from the supported housing;
 - (iii) If the veteran is unemployed after one year, job-specific training shall be provided by the Department of Education to increase chances of getting a job; and,
 - (iv) Rehabilitation groups shall establish a community within the veterans' communities. These groups will build a backbone to these communities, giving the veterans the support system they need.
- (c) A regulatory body within the Department of Housing and Urban Development shall inspect veterans' communities every 3 months including collecting feedback from residents to ensure a high standard of living.

SEC. 3. EMPLOYER TAX BREAKS AND INCENTIVES.

(a) Large and small corporations shall be eligible for tax breaks for employing veterans:



- (i) A 3% tax break shall be granted for employment ratio of 1 to 7 veterans to non-veterans; and,
- (ii) The groups will be strongly encouraged, but not required.

Enforcement: This bill will be enforced by the Department of Education (DOE) and the Department of Labor.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This bill will take effect 91 days after passage.

<u>FUNDING:</u> This bill will be funded by the Military Housing Assistance Fund, Department of Education, and the Department of Labor.

<u>Authors:</u> OH-Sr., NY-Sr., NJ-Sr., ID-Sr.

Cosponsors: TN-Jr., NV-Sr., LA-Jr., VA-Sr., ND-Jr., AL-Jr., TX-Jr., IL-Sr.



S.5 Research of Embryonic Gene Editing Legalization Act

Whereas we must amend the process for the research, development, and approval of embryonic gene therapies under the authority of the Food and Drug Administration; therefore,

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 "Research of Embryonic Gene Editing Legalization Act" or "REGEL Act."

SEC. 2. EXPANSIONS OF EMBRYONIC RESEARCH AND ACCREDITATION.

- a) For the purposes of research, accredited scientists may employ human embryos beyond the fourteenth day and the formation of the primitive streak, subject to the restrictions put forth in S.5\3.
- b) The National Stem Cell Research Oversight (NSCRO) Committee shall be chartered under the authority of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to approve researchers that may operate under this expanded access to embryonic experimentation. Such committee shall be comprised of:
 - i) Three appointees from the FDA, two of whom shall have at least 10 years of experience in biomedical research;
 - ii) One appointee from the President of the United States, to be confirmed by a two-thirds vote of the Senate; and,
 - iii) Five appointees from the Senate Committee on Science and Technology, two of whom shall have at least 10 years of experience in biomedical research, two of whom shall have expertise in bioethics, and two of whom shall have experience with research subject approval processes (one member may fit multiple criteria).

SEC. 3. RESTRICTIONS ON EMBRYONIC RESEARCH.

- a) This statute shall impose additional restrictions on research that employs human embryonic stem cells or human embryos:
 - i) Embryos derived from uteruses should have lethal congenital malformation (LCM), as diagnosed by a physician through pre-implantation genetic testing; and,
 - ii) Human embryos shall only be employed once there is no alternative subject for ii. All research should be done with the intent to cure or find solutions for accepted LCMs and for no other reason, primarily because there is no other alternative for these embryos to avoid death from LCMs.



SEC. 4. CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL OF SOMATIC OR GERMLINE EDITING STUDIES

- a) Criteria for the approval of any somatic or germline editing studies, includes but is not limited to:
 - iii) The existence of no reasonable alternatives to the trial;
 - iv) A clearly articulated goal of the research being to prevent an LCM;
 - v) The research is focused solely on editing genes associated with predisposing or causing the LCM;
 - vi) The availability of credible preclinical information;
 - vii) Approved trials must establish monitoring of both research participants and their facilities;
 - viii) Long term follow up plans are implemented; and,
 - ix) Treatment cannot be used for anything other than preventing an LCM.
- b) After initial research and FDA approval, clinical trials may commence.

SEC. 5. APPROVAL AND OVERSIGHT BOARD

- a) The committee shall establish an approval and oversight board which shall have a 50/50 split of politicians and respected physicians;
 - i) Politicians will be put forth: 3 senators and 3 representatives
 - ii) Physicians will be put forth by the NIH (6 physicians)
- b) There will be a 2 year renewal of this law and yearly reports put forth by clinical trial director;
- c) FDA subcommittee will do random check-ins to ensure compliance with the stipulations indicated in Section 1;
 - i) FDA subcommittee will investigate noncompliance
 - ii) At a second infraction by a single research organization, their embryonic research license will be removed (for embryo research), and they will be tried in court to determine further repercussions.

DEFINITIONS:

somatic cell gene therapy - treatment aimed to cure a disease only in the patient, not their posterity clinical trial - a research study in which one or more human subjects are studied to evaluate the effects of a medicine or technology

lethal congenital malformation (LCM) - a birth defect that can be fatal

Enforcement: A newly established special subcommittee for genetic modification by the FDA.

Effective Date: This bill will take effect 91 days after passage.

<u>Funding:</u> independent institutions for research and FDA for regulatory committee.

Authors: MT-Sr., IA-Jr., WA-Jr., TN-Jr.

COSPONSORS: WI-Jr., MN-Sr., CA-Jr., GA-Jr., NV-Jr., MS-Sr.



S.6 Educate the Incarcerated Act

Whereas there is a need to reduce recidivism rates through the establishment of re-education programs for justice-involved individuals; therefore,

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 "Educate the Incarcerated Act."

SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF RE-EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

- (a) Congress shall establish a standard curriculum for re-education programs for incarcerated individuals. This curriculum shall:
 - (i) Offer courses on financial management, civics, preparation for the General Equivalency Diploma (GED), and attainment of occupational licenses;
 - (ii) Conduct end-of-course evaluations to determine completion and collect data for adjustment and improvement of future courses; and,
 - (iii) Slowly implement classes for those who have never been incarcerated or are formerly incarcerated individuals to ease the transition upon release.

SEC. 3. PROVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AND PAROLE CHECK-INS.

- (a) Correctional facilities shall provide counseling and mental health services for incarcerated individuals. These services shall:
 - (i) Focus on addiction and trauma to learn triggers and prevent relapse.
- (b) Correctional facilities shall establish parole check-ins. These parole check-ins shall:
 - (i) Include mental and physical evaluations facilitated by medical professionals;
 - (ii) Parole officers shall collect data on housing, financial employment, and sobriety status;
 - (1) These data shall be used to reevaluate and improve courses.
 - (iii) Parole officers shall communicate with prisons to ensure all check-ups are completed correctly and accurately; and,
 - (iv) Parole check-ins shall be conducted on a scale that gradually decreases over time.

DEFINITIONS:

recidivism – the tendency of a convicted criminal to reoffend.

incarcerated individual – a person currently confined in a prison or comparable correctional facility.

Enforcement: This bill will be enforced by the Senate Judiciary Committee.



EFFECTIVE DATE: This bill will take effect 91 days after passage.

FUNDING: This bill will be funded by the Committee on Appropriations, reallocating funds originally allocated to funding federal prisons.

Authors: TX-Jr., TN-Sr., CA-Sr., HI-Jr.

Cosponsors: FL-Sr., GA-Sr., VI-Jr., KY-Jr., KY-Sr., NY-Jr., NJ-Jr., CA-Jr., RI-Jr., VT-Jr.



S.7 Protect Our Privacy

Whereas there is a need to protect the personal information of the citizens of the united states of america; therefore,

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 "Protect Our Privacy Act" or "POPA Act."

SEC. 2. CYBERSECURITY.

- (a) Within 2 years of the enactment of this law, any company that seeks to sell or transfer personal information from users in the US shall only do so in a format that excludes any personal identifiable information of users from data transfer or sale.
- (b) The sale and transfer of personal information is prohibited, including but not limited to IP Addresses, social security numbers or any other federally recognized personal identification number, addresses, online account usernames, financial information protected under Right to Financial Privacy Act, and medical information protected under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act.

SEC. 2. ENFORCEMENT.

- (a) Congress shall authorize the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to enforce this regulation:
 - (i) The FTC shall conduct inspections of internet companies involved in the selling of data to ensure these regulations are being complied with. Officials shall not assist law enforcement or other outside agencies;
 - (ii) The FTC shall be authorized to implement any additional regulations to ensure users' personally identifiable information is not sold to third parties; and,
 - (iii) Any country that the United States has sanctions from or those it imposes sanctions on shall be regulated by the FTC when considering data privacy.
- (b) If companies are found to have violated this regulation, they shall be referred to the Department of Justice Civil Rights Division.

Enforcement: This bill will be enforced by the Federal Trade Commission.

Effective Date: This bill will take effect 91 days after passage.

FUNDING: This bill will be funded by the Department of Health and Human Services & the Department of Homeland Security.

Authors: AZ - Sr.; HI - Sr.; DE - Sr.; CT-Sr; NV- Jr

Cosponsors: WY-Sr; TN-Jr; FL-Jr; IN-Sr; WI-Sr; ID-Jr; UT-Jr; NE-Jr; NH-Jr; KS-Jr