



Harvard Model Congress Boston 2024

Senate C

February 23, 2024

Presiding:

Grant Williams and Yana Hubyak

S.1 - GMO Transparency

S.2 - Halfway Homes Act

S.3 - Mental Health is a Must Act



S.1 GMO Transparency Act

WHEREAS THERE IS AN INCREASE IN GENETICALLY MODIFIED FOODS AND A LACK OF TRANSPARENCY IN HOW THESE FOODS ARE ALTERED.

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 “GMO Transparency Act.”

SEC. 2. MANDATED DISCLOSURE.

- a) The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) shall mandate that food producers disclose details about genetic modifications within their food products:
 - i) This information shall be printed on nutrition labels for all food products
- b) The FDA shall mandate that the information to be disclosed must include:
 - i) The exact nature of the modifications enacted;
 - ii) The purpose of the modification;
 - iii) The official Department of Agriculture label for genetically modified organisms; and,
 - iv) All side effects of their modified products caused by the modification process

SEC. 3. ENFORCEMENT.

- a) The FDA shall establish and enforce consequences for violations of the mandates outlined in Section Two. These consequences shall include:
 - i) A fee of 5% of all annual profits made from mislabeled product for companies valued under \$15 million; and,
 - ii) A fee of 10% of all annual profit made from mislabeled products for companies valued at over \$15 million
- b) All fines collected from violations of the mandate outlined in Section 2 shall enter a discretionary fund for use by the FDA; and
- c) Three violations within any three years of production shall result in revocation of FDA approval, pending further investigation

DEFINITIONS:

Genetically modified organism (GMO) – organisms that are genetically modified for some purpose

ENFORCEMENT: This bill will be enforced by the Food and Drug Administration

EFFECTIVE DATE: This bill will take effect 180 days after passage.

FUNDING: This bill will be funded by the FDA with the understanding that fines solicited from those noncompliant with the Act will enter the FDA's budget.

AUTHORS: MN-Sr., MT-Sr., NM-Jr.

COSPONSORS: WA-Jr., CA-Jr., WI-Jr., IL-Jr., KS-Sr., HI-Sr.



S.2 Halfway Homes Act

WHEREAS THERE IS A NEED TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SUPPORT TO THOSE WHO ARE TRANSITIONING FROM INCARCERATION OR DRUG USE INTO SUPPORTIVE AND STRUCTURED HOUSING

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 “Halfway Homes Act.”

SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HALFWAY HOME SUPPORT PROGRAM.

- (a) The Attorney General, in coordination with the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, shall establish a program to provide grants to states, territories, and tribal governments for the development and operation of halfway homes; and,
- (b) The program shall prioritize funding for facilities that:
 - (i) Provide comprehensive services including job training, education, and counseling;
 - (ii) Demonstrate collaboration with local communities and law enforcement agencies;
 - (iii) Show potential for scalability and replication in other jurisdictions; and,
 - (iv) Create a committee of mental health specialists to decide the rehabilitation standards that need to be met in order for patients to be deemed fit to re-enter society

DEFINITIONS:

halfway homes – an institute for people with criminal backgrounds or substance use problems to learn the necessary skills to reintegrate into society and better support and care for themselves

rehabilitation – the action of restoring an individual’s physical and mental health through training and therapy after imprisonment, addiction, or illness

ENFORCEMENT: This bill will be enforced by the Department of Justice.

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

FUNDING: This bill will be funded by the Department of Justice.

AUTHORS: RI-Jr., AR-Jr., CA-Jr., GA-Sr.

COSPONSORS: HI-Jr., CA-Sr., TX-Sr., NJ-Jr., KT-Sr., NJ-Jr., TN-Sr.



S.3 Mental Health is a Must Act

WHEREAS THERE IS A NEED TO ADDRESS THE MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES THAT VETERANS FACE

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 “Mental Health is a Must Act.”

SEC. 2. MENTAL HEALTH.

- (a) Congress shall create an organization titled Healthcare in Action (HIA) comprised of physicians, psychiatrists, and psychologists from each state as chosen by the Secretary of Health and Human Services;
 - (i) The HIA shall provide funding for mental health counseling and drugs to qualifying healthcare facilities;
 - (ii) The HIA shall provide a designated mental health specialist to work with veterans in qualifying healthcare facilities; and,
 - (iii) The HIA shall determine which healthcare facilities qualify to receive HIA aid

SEC. 3. EMPLOYMENT.

- (a) Congress shall establish a 3% tax credit for companies that hire unhoused employees; and,
- (b) Congress shall allow the Department of Housing and Urban Development to create qualifications for which companies are eligible for the tax break

ENFORCEMENT: This bill will be enforced by the Department of Health and Human Services

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

FUNDING: This bill will be funded by the Senate Appropriations Committee

AUTHORS: NJ-Sr., UT-Sr., IL-Sr.

COSPONSORS: TX-Jr., RI-Sr., MA-Sr., PA-Jr., OH-Sr., NV-Jr., IN-Jr., MT-Sr., AZ-Sr.