

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To provide for regulations on protecting statutory conscience rights in health care.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

_____ introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To provide for regulations on protecting statutory conscience rights in health care.

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 “Defense of Conscience
5 in Health Care Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. REGULATIONS ON PROTECTING STATUTORY CON-**
7 **SCIENCE RIGHTS IN HEALTH CARE.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the
9 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and
10 Human Services shall—

1 (1) issue, under the Federal conscience and
2 anti-discrimination laws, a final rule that is identical
3 or materially equivalent to the former rule stated in
4 part 88 of title 45, Code of Federal Regulations, as
5 in effect on July 22, 2019 (84 Fed. Reg. 23,170; re-
6 lating to protecting statutory conscience rights in
7 health care; delegations of authority); and

8 (2) specify in the final rule that the rule super-
9 sedes any contrary rule in existence on the date of
10 issuance.

11 (b) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “Federal
12 conscience and anti-discrimination laws” has the meaning
13 given the term in the former rule specified in subsection
14 (a)(1).