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(Original Signature of Member)

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To promote fair and transparent virtual currency markets by examining
the potential for price manipulation.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. SOTO introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee
on _____

A BILL

To promote fair and transparent virtual currency markets
by examining the potential for price manipulation.

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 “Virtual Currency Con-
5 sumer Protection Act of 2018”.

6 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.**

7 It is the sense of Congress that virtual currency could
8 have a significant effect on the economy, and regulation
9 of them may be important to protect investors, deter bad

1 actors, create market certainty, and ensure American com-
2 petitiveness in an evolving global marketplace.

3 **SEC. 3. STUDY AND REPORT ON THE PREVENTION OF VIR-**
4 **TUAL CURRENCY PRICE MANIPULATION.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the
6 date of the enactment of this Act, the Chairman of the
7 Commodity Futures Trading Commission, in consultation
8 with the heads of the Securities and Exchange Commis-
9 sion and other relevant Federal agencies (as determined
10 by the Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Com-
11 mission), shall submit to the Committees on Agriculture
12 and on Financial Services of the House of Representatives
13 and the Committees on Agriculture, Nutrition, and For-
14 estry and on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the
15 Senate a report to promote fair and transparent virtual
16 currency markets by examining the potential for price ma-
17 nipulation. The report shall include the following:

- 18 (1) A brief description of—
- 19 (A) methods by which persons could ma-
20 nipulate the price of virtual currencies;
- 21 (B) which types of virtual currency, if any,
22 are more susceptible to being manipulated; and
- 23 (C) the effects on, and particular harm to,
24 investors if price manipulation of virtual cur-
25 rencies occurs.

1 (2) An analysis of the extent to which the regu-
2 latory authority of the Commodity Futures Trading
3 Commission and other relevant Federal agencies al-
4 lows for—

5 (A) market surveillance of virtual cur-
6 rencies for signs of manipulation; and

7 (B) enforcement of Federal regulations
8 against persons involved in any such manipula-
9 tion.

10 (3) Recommendations for any legislative
11 changes needed to improve the ability of the Com-
12 modity Futures Trading Commission and other rel-
13 evant Federal agencies—

14 (A) to carry out the monitoring and en-
15 forcement activities described in paragraph (2);

16 (B) to prevent price manipulations of vir-
17 tual currencies; and

18 (C) to protect virtual currency investors
19 from price manipulation.

20 (b) VIRTUAL CURRENCY DEFINED.—In this Act, the
21 term “virtual currency” means a digital representation of
22 value that does not have legal tender status and that func-
23 tions as a medium of exchange, a unit of account, or a
24 store of value.