

Blockchain Regulatory Certainty Act (BRCA) Approved by House Financial Services Committee

BRCA Overview

- The BRCA is a bill reintroduced by Rep. Tom Emmer & Rep. Ritchie Torres on May 21 for blockchain service providers (BSPS) and builders who don't custody consumer funds.
- The BRCA aims to protect builders of noncustodial tech from being classified as money transmitters under federal and state laws.
- Elements of the BRCA were included in the CLARITY Act, passing the House Financial Services Committee (HFSC) markup, reported favorably to the House floor.

Key Provisions

- Creates a safe harbor to prevent BSPs and developers from money transmitter regulations unless they control digital assets.
- "Control" is the unilateral legal right to make transactions without 3rd party approval.
- This protects non-custodial blockchain participants from licensing & registration that are technologically infeasible.

Economic Impact

- The bill is designed to prevent blockchain innovation from being driven overseas by providing the regulatory certainty needed for developers to build in the United States
- Aims to help the U.S. maintain its position as a global leader in crypto innovation and fulfill President Trump's promise to make America "the crypto capital of the world"
- Addresses concerns that without this clarity, transformative blockchain tech may go overseas, harming US investors and builders.

What's Next?

- The BRCA, a part of the CLARITY Act, passed the HFSC on June 11 and awaits a House vote.
- Advocacy efforts are underway to ensure the bill's passage in Congress to protect developers, such as Samourai Wallet and Tornado Cash devs in legal trouble now.
- Industry leaders are calling for swift passage and urging citizens to contact elected reps.

Sources

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