

GENIUS Act Passes Senate

GENIUS Act Overview

- Senate passed (61-37) first comprehensive federal crypto framework, co-sponsored by Sens. Lummis (R) and Gillibrand (D) 05/19/25.
- Ends "regulation by enforcement" approach that has restricted crypto innovation.
- This provides a clearer set of regulatory guidelines for industry participants, investors, and market regulators.

Key Provisions

- Most cryptocurrencies are to be classified as commodities (set for CFTC oversight), limiting SEC to security tokens.
- Requires 100% reserves for stablecoins and mandates consumer risk disclosures.
- Establishes clearer tax treatment for digital assets, raising the crypto transaction reporting threshold from \$10 to \$600.

Economic Impact

- Crypto markets were up 14% post-passage; projected \$47B in new blockchain investments.
- This action is expected to help develop opportunities for 65,000 new jobs in the crypto sector projected within three years.
- The passing of the Senate is the start of positioning the US to compete with Singapore, UAE, and others to become the top crypto hub.

What's Next?

- House expected to vote on the bill before July recess with minor amendments, with five federal agencies required to coordinate new rules within 180 days.
- Companies have a 12–18 month window for compliance with the new framework.
- Critics pushing for stronger consumer protections and environmental provisions.

Sources

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