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Bitcoin Holds Steady Amid Mixed Signals From Trade Deals and Regulatory Moves

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Bitcoin experienced a slight dip on Wednesday, trading around \$117,900 as investors tread carefully following a recent surge to record highs. Despite upbeat global trade news and new U.S. cryptocurrency regulations, the world's leading digital asset remains in a consolidation phase, reflecting a cautious market environment.

The cryptocurrency last traded about 1% lower at 10:10 a.m. Eastern Time (ET), holding within a narrow range after peaking above \$123,000 earlier this month. This restraint comes as market participants digest a mix of regulatory updates and macroeconomic factors that temper enthusiasm.

Positive sentiment initially surged in Asian markets following U.S. President Donald Trump's announcement of a broad trade deal with Japan. The agreement reduces tariffs on Japanese imports to 15%, down from a previously proposed 25%, and includes a significant \$550 billion Japanese investment into the American economy. This deal opens Japanese markets to U.S. exports such as automobiles, agriculture, and energy products, fueling global risk appetite and pushing many risk assets higher. However, Bitcoin's price gains remained muted, suggesting investors are cautious about the trade deal's final details ahead of the August 1 deadline.

In corporate news, Bitcoin miner MARA Holdings (NASDAQ: MARA) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to raise \$1 billion through the sale of 0% convertible senior notes due in 2032. The company plans to use the proceeds to buy Bitcoin, fund operations, expand infrastructure, reduce debt, and engage in strategic acquisitions. The notes give investors options to convert into cash or shares and include provisions for repurchase or redemption depending on stock price performance.

Meanwhile, U.S. crypto markets have been buoyed by recent legislative progress. President Trump signed the GENIUS Act into law, establishing a federal regulatory framework for stablecoins. The House also passed two additional cryptocurrency-related bills, which now await Senate

consideration. Market watchers are turning their focus to the Federal Reserve's policy meeting scheduled for July 30, hoping for signals on interest rate directions that could influence crypto valuations.

Overall, Bitcoin remains in a phase of cautious optimism. Despite encouraging trade developments and regulatory clarity, investors are balancing these positives with ongoing economic uncertainties, leading to restrained price movement in the short term.