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Key U.S. Crypto Bills Delayed After House Procedure Stalls Progress

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Two major cryptocurrency bills aimed at providing regulatory clarity and innovation incentives were unexpectedly shelved Tuesday after a procedural failure in the United States House of Representatives. The postponement of the Clarity Act and the Generating Enhanced National Investments Using Strategies (GENIUS) Act has cast fresh doubt on the pace of digital asset legislation in Washington.

Both bills were considered centerpieces of what had been dubbed “Crypto Week” on Capitol Hill, a coordinated push to establish a firmer legal foundation for the cryptocurrency sector. The Clarity Act was designed to offer clearer definitions around digital asset classifications, particularly the distinction between securities and commodities. Meanwhile, the GENIUS Act aimed to encourage innovation by creating tax and regulatory incentives for blockchain-based technologies developed in the U.S.

Supporters argue that the lack of defined regulation has hampered domestic innovation and pushed emerging companies offshore. Tuesday’s delay reinforces concerns that Washington may again fall behind in providing a workable framework to support this fast-moving industry. Several lawmakers who have long advocated for digital asset reform expressed disappointment at the failed procedural vote.

“This was a missed opportunity,” said Rep. Patrick McHenry (R-NC), Chair of the House Financial Services Committee. “We’ve spent years hearing from stakeholders and building bipartisan momentum. The American digital asset industry deserves better than more delays and red tape.”

At the center of the setback was a breakdown in floor scheduling, not a direct rejection of the bills themselves. The failure to bring the measures to a vote does not signify a collapse in support, but it does signal the ongoing challenges of navigating complex legislation in a polarized environment, even on issues that have cross-party interest.

Despite this hurdle, both bills are expected to return to the agenda later this session. Industry advocates, including members of the Blockchain Association and several fintech coalitions, have pledged to keep the pressure on lawmakers. For them, clarity isn’t just about compliance, it’s about competitiveness.

With global rivals like the European Union and parts of Asia moving swiftly to build comprehensive crypto frameworks, the United States risks ceding leadership in a field that could define the future of finance. Tuesday’s procedural misstep may be a temporary pause, but it underscores how legislative inertia could have long-term consequences for innovation and economic growth.