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Thread: [Nine Hours, One Standoff: How Crypto Broke the House Floor](#)

JoseMar - July 17, 2025, 3:02 am

Nine Hours, One Standoff:
How Crypto Broke the House Floor

Okay, so this isn't your typical "Congress passes something, applause all around" type of update. This one dragged. Like, painfully. We're talking about a nine-hour vote just to move things forward, not even to pass the actual crypto bills. Nine hours of procedural limbo.

Why? In classic fashion, it all boiled down to a fight over central bank digital currencies, or CBDCs. And yeah, that sounds boring at first glance, but stay with me. This one actually says a lot about where the US stands on crypto... or doesn't.

CBDCs: The New Boogeyman (for Some Republicans)

Let's be real, CBDCs freak a lot of people out. On paper, they're just digital dollars issued by a central bank. But if you squint, it starts to look like a tool for mass surveillance. That's the argument a group of Republican hardliners made, and honestly? Even if you don't buy the tinfoil hat version, there's a valid fear about government overreach baked into it.

So, what happened? This group basically refused to vote on moving forward unless there was a clear promise: no CBDCs, ever.

That's how the vote stalled. For nine hours. Picture it: grown adults in suits, stuck in a procedural staring contest over digital money.

Eventually, leadership blinked, kinda. The compromise? Instead of banning CBDCs directly in the crypto bills, they'll tack that language onto the National Defense Authorization Act, a totally unrelated but must-pass spending bill. Classic congressional move.

Crypto Week (Or... Crypto Whenever We Get to It Week)

Republicans were calling this "Crypto Week." Which sounds kinda fun, if it weren't for all the chaos. The goal was to pass three major crypto bills: The CLARITY Act (think: clearer market structure for crypto)

The GENIUS Act (stablecoin regulation, not just a cheeky name)

The Anti-CBDC Surveillance Act (pretty self-explanatory)

Now here's where it gets messy: Trump reportedly wants the GENIUS Act on his desk before the weekend. But Speaker Mike Johnson said that votes for some bills might actually get pushed to next week.

So yeah, "Crypto Week" might be more of a "Crypto... Eventually" situation.

But Why the Stalemate, Really?

Here's the strange part: even though the GENIUS Act specifically says the Fed can't use it to roll out a CBDC, that wasn't enough for some of the skeptics. Representative Keith Self was convinced it still opened a back door.

It's easy to dismiss that as paranoia, but I think there's something else at play. Crypto is becoming a proxy for larger fights, about privacy, control, even the direction of the economy. So these votes aren't just about bills. They're little battlegrounds in a much bigger war over what money looks like in the next decade.

A Record-Breaking... Delay

This might be the part I find most bizarre: this vote broke records. Literally. It became the longest open vote in House history, beating one that happened earlier this same month over something called the "One Big Beautiful Bill Act" (yes, that's real).

It's almost like Congress is speedrunning gridlock. Or slow-running it? I'm not even sure anymore.

But the fact that crypto is causing this kind of procedural chaos... that says a lot. A few years ago, crypto wasn't even on the radar for most of these folks. Now it's at the center of record-breaking standoffs.

So... What's Actually Changing?

Let's not pretend this was some heroic legislative breakthrough. Nothing's passed yet. All they did was agree to talk about the bills. But here's what might matter more: The anti-CBDC crowd has enough power to stall everything.

The defense bill, which always passes, now has crypto language in it.

The GENIUS Act, if passed, could shape how stablecoins are treated nationwide.

And most of all, crypto is no longer a sideshow. It's right there in the middle of US politics now, whether people like it or not.

New entry for [7](#)contest?

? Big shoutout to [6](#) for making this even more exciting?

Hey guys, check this out.?

[DemonAsylum](#) [Braco22](#) [SUI-3183372](#) [SIM-1169085](#) [Walter Herr](#)[Winston](#) [Dystortion](#)

It's hard not to be cynical. Congress dragging its feet isn't new. But the fact that lawmakers are arguing this hard about digital money means crypto isn't going away. It's forcing questions no one wanted to ask before.

And maybe that's progress, in its own weird, glacial way.

Or maybe we'll be back here in a few months watching another nine-hour vote because someone added a sneaky clause about AI tokens or blockchain voting machines. Who knows?

Anyway, I'll be watching. Probably with coffee. Or popcorn. Depends how weird it gets.

DramaKing - July 17, 2025, 5:44 am

Congress adding unrelated pork to the NDAA is nothing new as you said.

JoseMar - July 17, 2025, 6:49 am

(Jul 17, 2025 05:44 AM)DramaKing Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Congress adding unrelated pork to the NDAA is nothing new as you said.

Yep, totally, classic move, like I said. It's almost tradition at this point. Still wild that crypto made it into defense spending, though.?