

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1900

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the health care professionals, first responders, scientists, researchers, all essential workers, and individuals who provided care and services during the coronavirus pandemic.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 16, 2021

Mr. BERGMAN (for himself and Mr. NEGUSE) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the health care professionals, first responders, scientists, researchers, all essential workers, and individuals who provided care and services during the coronavirus pandemic.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Coronavirus Front-
5 Line Responders Commemorative Coin Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSE.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Health care professionals working with pa-
2 tients in person and via telehealth made incredible
3 sacrifices, including to their own personal wellbeing,
4 to save lives during the coronavirus pandemic.

5 (2) First responders and law enforcement
6 upheld their responsibilities at great personal risk to
7 keep our national and local communities safe and
8 slow the spread of the coronavirus.

9 (3) Scientists and researchers, including at our
10 nation's research universities, worked tirelessly and
11 in innovative ways to understand, prevent, and treat
12 the coronavirus.

13 (4) Individuals and families bravely took on
14 new burdens to care for loved ones impacted by the
15 coronavirus.

16 (5) The dedication of countless workers in es-
17 sential professions made possible the nationwide ef-
18 fort to combat the coronavirus pandemic.

19 (6) In the face of an unprecedented public
20 health crisis, the citizens of the United States of
21 America came together and supported the dedicated
22 health care professionals and others on the front
23 lines of the coronavirus pandemic.

1 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to honor
2 and commemorate the work of the coronavirus pandemic
3 front-line responders.

4 **SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.**

5 (a) DENOMINATIONS.—The Secretary of the Treas-
6 ury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”)
7 shall mint and issue the following coins:

8 (1) \$5 GOLD COINS.—Not more than 50,000 \$5
9 coins, which shall—

10 (A) weigh 8.359 grams;

11 (B) have a diameter of 0.850 inches; and

12 (C) contain 90 percent gold and 10 percent
13 alloy.

14 (2) \$1 SILVER COINS.—Not more than 400,000
15 \$1 coins, which shall—

16 (A) weigh 26.73 grams;

17 (B) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

18 (C) contain at least 90 percent silver.

19 (3) HALF DOLLAR CLAD COINS.—Not more
20 than 300,000 half dollar coins, which shall—

21 (A) weigh 11.34 grams;

22 (B) have a diameter of 1.205 inches; and

23 (C) be minted to the specifications for half
24 dollar coins, contained in section 5112(b) of
25 title 31, United States Code.

1 (b) LEGAL TENDER.—The coins minted under this
 2 Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of
 3 title 31, United States Code.

4 (c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections
 5 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins
 6 minted under this Act shall be considered to be numis-
 7 matic items.

8 (d) MINTAGE LIMIT EXCEPTION.—If the Secretary
 9 determines, based on independent market-based research
 10 conducted by the designated recipient organization identi-
 11 fied in section 7(b), that the mintage levels described in
 12 subsections (a), (b), and (c) are not adequate to meet pub-
 13 lic demand, the Secretary may increase the mintage levels
 14 as the Secretary determines is necessary to meet public
 15 demand.

16 **SEC. 4. DESIGNS OF COINS.**

17 (a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—The designs of the coins
 19 minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the
 20 sacrifices made by health care workers and first re-
 21 sponders during the coronavirus pandemic.

22 (2) DESIGNATIONS AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On
 23 each coin minted under this Act, there shall be—

24 (A) a designation of the value of the coin;

25 (B) an inscription of the year “2024”; and

1 (C) inscriptions of the words “Liberty”,
2 “In God We Trust”, “United States of Amer-
3 ica”, and “E Pluribus Unum”.

4 (b) SELECTION.—The designs for the coins minted
5 under this Act shall—

6 (1) honor the sacrifices made by health care
7 professionals, first responders, scientists, and re-
8 searchers during the coronavirus pandemic;

9 (2) be selected by the Secretary, after consulta-
10 tion with the Secretary of Health and Human Serv-
11 ices and the Commission of Fine Arts; and

12 (3) be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advi-
13 sory Committee.

14 **SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.**

15 (a) QUALITY OF COINS.—Coins minted under this
16 Act shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.

17 (b) MINT FACILITIES.—Only one facility of the
18 United States Mint may be used to strike any particular
19 quality of the coins minted under this Act.

20 (c) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may
21 issue coins minted under this Act only during the 1-year
22 period beginning on January 1, 2024.

1 **SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.**

2 (a) SALE PRICE.—The coins issued under this Act
3 shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum
4 of—

5 (1) the face value of the coins;

6 (2) the surcharge provided in section 7(a) with
7 respect to such coins; and

8 (3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins
9 (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery,
10 overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

11 (b) BULK SALES.—The Secretary shall make bulk
12 sales of the coins issued under this Act at a reasonable
13 discount.

14 (c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall accept
16 prepaid orders for the coins minted under this Act
17 before the issuance of such coins.

18 (2) DISCOUNT.—Sale prices with respect to pre-
19 paid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a rea-
20 sonable discount.

21 **SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—All sales of coins minted under
23 this Act shall include a surcharge as follows:

24 (1) A surcharge of \$35 per coin for the \$5 coin.

25 (2) A surcharge of \$10 per coin for the \$1 coin.

1 (3) A surcharge of \$5 per coin for the half dol-
2 lar coin.

3 (b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of
4 title 31, United States Code, all surcharges received by
5 the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act
6 shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the CDC Foun-
7 dation to support the health care response to infectious
8 diseases and pandemics.

9 (c) AUDITS.—The CDC Foundation shall be subject
10 to the audit requirements of section 5134(f)(2) of title 31,
11 United States Code, with regard to the amounts received
12 under subsection (b).

13 (d) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding subsection (a),
14 no surcharge may be included with respect to the issuance
15 under this Act of any coin during a calendar year if, as
16 of the time of such issuance, the issuance of such coin
17 would result in the number of commemorative coin pro-
18 grams issued during such year to exceed the annual 2
19 commemorative coin program issuance limitation under
20 section 5112(m)(1) of title 31, United States Code. The
21 Secretary may issue guidance to carry out this subsection.

22 **SEC. 8. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.**

23 The Secretary shall take such actions as may be nec-
24 essary to ensure that—

1 (1) minting and issuing coins under this Act
2 will not result in any net cost to the United States
3 Government; and

4 (2) no funds, including applicable surcharges,
5 shall be disbursed to any recipient designated in sec-
6 tion 7 until the total cost of designing and issuing
7 all of the coins authorized by this Act (including
8 labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead ex-
9 penses, marketing, and shipping) is recovered by the
10 United States Treasury, consistent with sections
11 5112(m) and 5134(f) of title 31, United States
12 Code.

13 **SEC. 9. MARKETING AND EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN.**

14 The Secretary is encouraged to develop and execute
15 a marketing and educational program, including appro-
16 priate cooperative marketing opportunities, to promote
17 and sell the coins authorized in section 3.

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