

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6184

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 10 (legislative day, JULY 9), 2008

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and
Urban Affairs

AN ACT

To provide for a program for circulating quarter dollar coins
that are emblematic of a national park or other national
site in each State, the District of Columbia, and each
territory of the United States, and for other purposes.

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

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “America’s Beautiful
3 National Parks Quarter Dollar Coin Act of 2008”.

4 **TITLE I—NATIONAL SITE**
5 **QUARTER DOLLARS**

6 **SEC. 101. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds as follows:

8 (1) Yellowstone National Park was established
9 by an Act signed by President Ulysses S. Grant on
10 March 1, 1872, as the Nation’s first national park.

11 (2) The summer and autumn of 1890 saw the
12 establishment of a number of national sites:

13 (A) August 19: Chickamauga and Chat-
14 tanooga established as national military parks
15 in Georgia and Tennessee.

16 (B) August 30: Antietam established as a
17 national battlefield site in Maryland.

18 (C) September 25: Sequoia National Park
19 established in California.

20 (D) September 27: Rock Creek Park estab-
21 lished in the District of Columbia.

22 (E) October 1: General Grant National
23 Park established in California (and subse-
24 quently incorporated in Kings Canyon National
25 Park).

1 (F) October 1: Yosemite National Park es-
2 tablished in California.

3 (3) Theodore Roosevelt was this nation's 26th
4 President and is considered by many to be our
5 "Conservationist President".

6 (4) As a frequent visitor to the West, Theodore
7 Roosevelt witnessed the virtual destruction of some
8 big game species and the overgrazing that destroyed
9 the grasslands and with them the habitats for small
10 mammals and songbirds and conservation increas-
11 ingly became one of his major concerns.

12 (5) When he became President in 1901, Roo-
13 sevelt pursued this interest in conservation by estab-
14 lishing the first 51 Bird Reserves, 4 Game Pre-
15 serves, and 150 National Forests.

16 (6) He also established the United States For-
17 est Service, signed into law the creation of 5 Na-
18 tional Parks, and signed the Act for the Preserva-
19 tion of American Antiquities in 1906 under which he
20 proclaimed 18 national monuments.

21 (7) Approximately 230,000,000 acres of area
22 within the United States was placed under public
23 protection by Theodore Roosevelt.

24 (8) Theodore Roosevelt said that nothing short
25 of defending this country in wartime "compares in

1 importance with the great central task of leaving
2 this land even a better land for our descendants
3 than it is for us”.

4 (9) The National Park Service was created by
5 an Act signed by President Woodrow Wilson on Au-
6 gust 25, 1916.

7 (10) The National Park System comprises 391
8 areas covering more than 84,000,000 acres in every
9 State (except Delaware), the District of Columbia,
10 American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Vir-
11 gin Islands.

12 (11) The sites or areas within the National
13 Park System vary widely in size and type from vast
14 natural wilderness to birthplaces of Presidents to
15 world heritage archaeology sites to an African burial
16 ground memorial in Manhattan and include national
17 parks, monuments, battlefields, military parks, his-
18 torical parks, historic sites, lakeshores, seashores,
19 recreation areas, scenic rivers and trails, and the
20 White House.

21 (12) In addition to the sites within the National
22 Park System, the United States has placed numer-
23 ous other types of sites under various forms of con-
24 servancy, such as the national forests and sites with-

1 in the National Wildlife Refuge System and on the
2 National Register of Historic Places.

3 **SEC. 102. ISSUANCE OF REDESIGNED QUARTER DOLLARS**
4 **EMBLEMATIC OF NATIONAL PARKS OR**
5 **OTHER NATIONAL SITES IN EACH STATE, THE**
6 **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, AND EACH TERRI-**
7 **TORY.**

8 Section 5112 of title 31, United States Code, is
9 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
10 section:

11 “(t) REDESIGN AND ISSUANCE OF QUARTER DOL-
12 LARS EMBLEMATIC OF NATIONAL SITES IN EACH STATE,
13 THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, AND EACH TERRITORY.—

14 “(1) REDESIGN BEGINNING UPON COMPLETION
15 OF PRIOR PROGRAM.—

16 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the
17 fourth sentence of subsection (d)(1) and sub-
18 section (d)(2), quarter dollars issued beginning
19 in 2010 shall have designs on the reverse se-
20 lected in accordance with this subsection which
21 are emblematic of the national sites in the
22 States, the District of Columbia and the terri-
23 tories of the United States.

24 “(B) FLEXIBILITY WITH REGARD TO
25 PLACEMENT OF INSCRIPTIONS.—Notwith-

1 standing subsection (d)(1), the Secretary may
2 select a design for quarter dollars referred to in
3 subparagraph (A) in which—

4 “(i) the inscription described in the
5 second sentence of subsection (d)(1) ap-
6 pears on the reverse side of any such quar-
7 ter dollars; and

8 “(ii) any inscription described in the
9 third sentence of subsection (d)(1) or the
10 designation of the value of the coin ap-
11 pears on the obverse side of any such quar-
12 ter dollars.

13 “(C) INCLUSION OF DISTRICT OF COLUM-
14 BIA, AND TERRITORIES.—For purposes of this
15 subsection, the term ‘State’ has the same mean-
16 ing as in section 3(a)(3) of the Federal Deposit
17 Insurance Act.

18 “(2) SINGLE SITE IN EACH STATE.—The design
19 on the reverse side of each quarter dollar issued dur-
20 ing the period of issuance under this subsection shall
21 be emblematic of 1 national site in each State.

22 “(3) SELECTION OF SITE AND DESIGN.—

23 “(A) SITE.—

24 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The selection of a
25 national park or other national site in each

1 State to be honored with a coin under this
2 subsection shall be made by the Secretary
3 of the Treasury, after consultation with
4 the Secretary of the Interior and the gov-
5 ernor or other chief executive of each State
6 with respect to which a coin is to be issued
7 under this subsection, and after giving full
8 and thoughtful consideration to national
9 sites that are not under the jurisdiction of
10 the Secretary of the Interior so that the
11 national site chosen for each State shall be
12 the most appropriate in terms of natural
13 or historic significance.

14 “(ii) TIMING.—The selection process
15 under clause (i) shall be completed before
16 the end of the 270-day period beginning on
17 the date of the enactment of the America’s
18 Beautiful National Parks Quarter Dollar
19 Coin Act of 2008.

20 “(B) DESIGN.—Each of the designs re-
21 quired under this subsection for quarter dollars
22 shall be—

23 “(i) selected by the Secretary after
24 consultation with—

1 “(I) the Secretary of the Interior;
2 and

3 “(II) the Commission of Fine
4 Arts; and

5 “(ii) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage
6 Advisory Committee.

7 “(C) SELECTION AND APPROVAL PROC-
8 ESS.—Recommendations for site selections and
9 designs for quarter dollars may be submitted in
10 accordance with the site and design selection
11 and approval process developed by the Sec-
12 retary in the sole discretion of the Secretary.

13 “(D) PARTICIPATION IN DESIGN.—The
14 Secretary may include participation by officials
15 of the State, artists from the State, engravers
16 of the United States Mint, and members of the
17 general public.

18 “(E) STANDARDS.—Because it is impor-
19 tant that the Nation’s coinage and currency
20 bear dignified designs of which the citizens of
21 the United States can be proud, the Secretary
22 shall not select any frivolous or inappropriate
23 design for any quarter dollar minted under this
24 subsection.

1 “(F) PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN REP-
2 RESENTATIONS.—No head and shoulders por-
3 trait or bust of any person, living or dead, no
4 portrait of a living person, and no outline or
5 map of a State may be included in the design
6 on the reverse of any quarter dollar under this
7 subsection.

8 “(4) ISSUANCE OF COINS.—

9 “(A) ORDER OF ISSUANCE.—The quarter
10 dollar coins issued under this subsection bear-
11 ing designs of national sites shall be issued in
12 the order in which the sites selected under
13 paragraph (3) were first established as a na-
14 tional site.

15 “(B) RATE OF ISSUANCE.—The quarter
16 dollar coins bearing designs of national sites
17 under this subsection shall be issued at the rate
18 of 5 new designs during each year of the period
19 of issuance under this subsection.

20 “(C) NUMBER OF EACH OF 5 COIN DE-
21 SIGNS IN EACH YEAR.—Of the quarter dollar
22 coins issued during each year of the period of
23 issuance, the Secretary of the Treasury shall
24 prescribe, on the basis of such factors as the
25 Secretary determines to be appropriate, the

1 number of quarter dollars which shall be issued
2 with each of the designs selected for such year.

3 “(5) TREATMENT AS NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For
4 purposes of sections 5134 and 5136, all coins mint-
5 ed under this subsection shall be considered to be
6 numismatic items.

7 “(6) ISSUANCE.—

8 “(A) QUALITY OF COINS.—The Secretary
9 may mint and issue such number of quarter
10 dollars of each design selected under paragraph
11 (3) in uncirculated and proof qualities as the
12 Secretary determines to be appropriate.

13 “(B) SILVER COINS.—Notwithstanding
14 subsection (b), the Secretary may mint and
15 issue such number of quarter dollars of each
16 design selected under paragraph (3) as the Sec-
17 retary determines to be appropriate, with a con-
18 tent of 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

19 “(7) PERIOD OF ISSUANCE.—

20 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph
21 (2), the program established under this sub-
22 section shall continue in effect until a national
23 site in each State has been honored.

24 “(B) SECOND ROUND AT DISCRETION OF
25 SECRETARY.—

1 “(i) DETERMINATION.—The Secretary
2 may make a determination before the end
3 of the 9-year period beginning when the
4 first quarter dollar is issued under this
5 subsection to continue the period of
6 issuance until a second national site in
7 each State, the District of Columbia, and
8 each territory referred to in this subsection
9 has been honored with a design on a quar-
10 ter dollar.

11 “(ii) NOTICE AND REPORT.—Within
12 30 days after making a determination
13 under clause (i), the Secretary shall submit
14 a written report on such determination to
15 the Committee on Financial Services of the
16 House of Representatives and the Com-
17 mittee on Banking, Housing, and Urban
18 Affairs of the Senate.

19 “(iii) APPLICABILITY OF PROVI-
20 SIONS.—If the Secretary makes a deter-
21 mination under clause (i), the provisions of
22 this subsection applicable to site and de-
23 sign selection and approval, the order, tim-
24 ing, and conditions of issuance shall apply
25 in like manner as the initial issuance of

1 quarter dollars under this subsection, ex-
2 cept that the issuance of quarter dollars
3 pursuant to such determination bearing
4 the first design shall commence in order
5 immediately following the last issuance of
6 quarter dollars under the first round.

7 “(iv) CONTINUATION UNTIL ALL
8 STATES ARE HONORED.—If the Secretary
9 makes a determination under clause (i),
10 the program under this subsection shall
11 continue until a second site in each State
12 has been so honored.

13 “(8) DESIGNS AFTER END OF PROGRAM.—
14 Upon the completion of the coin program under this
15 subsection, the design on—

16 “(A) the obverse of the quarter dollar shall
17 revert to the same design containing an image
18 of President Washington in effect for the quar-
19 ter dollar before the institution of the 50-State
20 quarter dollar program; and

21 “(B) notwithstanding the fourth sentence
22 of subsection (d)(1), the reverse of the quarter
23 dollar shall contain an image of General Wash-
24 ington crossing the Delaware River prior to the
25 Battle of Trenton.

1 “(9) NATIONAL SITE.—For purposes of this
 2 subsection, the term ‘national site’ means any site
 3 under the supervision, management, or conservancy
 4 of the National Park Service, the United States For-
 5 est Service, the United States Fish and Wildlife
 6 Service, or any similar department or agency of the
 7 Federal Government, including any national park,
 8 national monument, national battlefield, national
 9 military park, national historical park, national his-
 10 toric site, national lakeshore, seashore, recreation
 11 area, parkway, scenic river, or trail and any site in
 12 the National Wildlife Refuge System.

13 “(10) APPLICATION IN EVENT OF INDEPEND-
 14 ENCE.—If any territory becomes independent or oth-
 15 erwise ceases to be a territory or possession of the
 16 United States before quarter dollars bearing designs
 17 which are emblematic of such territory are minted
 18 pursuant to this subsection, this subsection shall
 19 cease to apply with respect to such territory.”.

20 **TITLE II—BULLION INVESTMENT** 21 **PRODUCTS**

22 **SEC. 201. SILVER BULLION COIN.**

23 Section 5112 of title 31, United States Code, is
 24 amended by inserting after subsection (t) (as added by
 25 title I of this Act) the following new subsection:

1 “(u) SILVER BULLION INVESTMENT PRODUCT.—

2 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall strike
3 and make available for sale such number of bullion
4 coins as the Secretary determines to be appropriate
5 that are exact duplicates of the quarter dollars
6 issued under subsection (t), each of which shall—

7 “(A) have a diameter of 3.0 inches and
8 weigh 5.0 ounces;

9 “(B) contain .999 fine silver;

10 “(C) have incused into the edge the
11 fineness and weight of the bullion coin;

12 “(D) bear an inscription of the denomina-
13 tion of such coin, which shall be ‘quarter dol-
14 lar’; and

15 “(E) not be minted or issued by the
16 United States Mint as so-called ‘fractional’ bul-
17 lion coins or in any size other than the size de-
18 scribed in paragraph (A).

19 “(2) AVAILABILITY FOR SALE.—Bullion coins
20 minted under paragraph (1)—

21 “(A) shall become available for sale no
22 sooner than the first day of the calendar year
23 in which the circulating quarter dollar of which
24 such bullion coin is a duplicate is issued; and

1 “(B) may only be available for sale during
2 the year in which such circulating quarter dol-
3 lar is issued.

4 “(3) DISTRIBUTION.—

5 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In addition to the au-
6 thorized dealers utilized by the Secretary in dis-
7 tributing bullion coins and solely for purposes
8 of distributing bullion coins issued under this
9 subsection, the Director of the National Park
10 Service, or the designee of the Director, may
11 purchase numismatic items issued under this
12 subsection, but only in units of no fewer than
13 1,000 at a time, and the Director, or the Direc-
14 tor’s designee, may resell or repackaging such nu-
15 mismatic items as the Director determines to be
16 appropriate.

17 “(B) RESALE.—The Director of the Na-
18 tional Park Service, or the designee of the Di-
19 rector, may resell, at cost and without repack-
20 aging, numismatic items acquired by the Direc-
21 tor or such designee under subparagraph (A) to
22 any party affiliated with any national site hon-
23 ored by a quarter dollar under subsection (t)
24 for repackaging and resale by such party in the
25 same manner and to the same extent as such

1 party would be authorized to engage in such ac-
 2 tivities under subparagraph (A) if the party
 3 were acting as the designee of the Director
 4 under such subparagraph.”.

Passed the House of Representatives July 9, 2008.

Attest: LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk.