

112TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2527

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 31, 2011

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

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## AN ACT

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins  
in recognition and celebration of the National Baseball  
Hall of Fame.

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 “National Baseball Hall  
3 of Fame Commemorative Coin Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5       The Congress finds the following:

6           (1) On June 12, 1939, the National Baseball  
7 Hall of Fame and Museum opened in Cooperstown,  
8 New York. Ty Cobb, Walter Johnson, Christy  
9 Mathewson, Babe Ruth, and Honus Wagner com-  
10 prised the inaugural class of inductees. This class  
11 set the standard for all future inductees. Since  
12 1939, just one percent of all Major League Baseball  
13 players have earned induction into the National  
14 Baseball Hall of Fame.

15           (2) The National Baseball Hall of Fame and  
16 Museum is dedicated to preserving history, honoring  
17 excellence, and connecting generations through the  
18 rich history of our national pastime. Baseball has  
19 mirrored our Nation’s history since the Civil War,  
20 and is now an integral part of our Nation’s heritage.

21           (3) The National Baseball Hall of Fame and  
22 Museum chronicles the history of our national pas-  
23 time and houses the world’s largest collection of  
24 baseball artifacts, including more than 38,000 three  
25 dimensional artifacts, 3,000,000 documents,  
26 500,000 photographs, and 12,000 hours of recorded

1 media. This collection ensures that baseball history  
2 and its unique connection to American history will  
3 be preserved and recounted for future generations.

4 (4) Since its opening in 1939, more than  
5 14,000,000 baseball fans have visited the National  
6 Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum to learn about  
7 the history of our national pastime and the game's  
8 connection to the American experience.

9 (5) The National Baseball Hall of Fame and  
10 Museum is an educational institution, reaching  
11 10,000,000 Americans annually. Utilizing video con-  
12 ference technology, students and teachers participate  
13 in interactive lessons led by educators from the Na-  
14 tional Baseball Hall of Fame Museum. These award-  
15 winning educational programs draw upon the won-  
16 ders of baseball to reach students in classrooms na-  
17 tionwide. Each educational program uses baseball as  
18 a lens for teaching young Americans important les-  
19 sons on an array of topics, including mathematics,  
20 geography, civil rights, women's history, economics,  
21 industrial technology, arts, and communication.

22 **SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.**

23 (a) DENOMINATIONS.—In recognition and celebration  
24 of the National Baseball Hall of Fame, the Secretary of

1 the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Sec-  
2 retary”) shall mint and issue the following coins:

3 (1) \$5 GOLD COINS.—Not more than 50,000 \$5  
4 coins, which shall—

5 (A) weigh 8.359 grams;

6 (B) have diameter of 0.850 inches; and

7 (C) contain 90 percent gold and 10 percent  
8 alloy.

9 (2) \$1 SILVER COINS.—Not more than 400,000  
10 \$1 coins, which shall—

11 (A) weigh 26.73 grams;

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

13 (C) contain 90 percent silver and 10 per-  
14 cent copper.

15 (3) HALF-DOLLAR CLAD COINS.—Not more  
16 than 750,000 half-dollar coins which shall—

17 (A) weigh 11.34 grams;

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

19 (C) be minted to the specifications for half-  
20 dollar coins contained in section 5112(b) of title  
21 31, United States Code.

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

1           (c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections  
2 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins  
3 minted under this Act shall be considered to be numis-  
4 matic items.

5           (d) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
6 gress that, to the extent possible without significantly add-  
7 ing to the purchase price of the coins, the \$1 coins and  
8 \$5 coins minted under this Act should be produced in a  
9 fashion similar to the 2009 International Year of Astron-  
10 omy coins issued by Monnaie de Paris, the French Mint,  
11 so that the reverse of the coin is convex to more closely  
12 resemble a baseball and the obverse concave, providing a  
13 more dramatic display of the obverse design chosen pursu-  
14 ant to section 4(c).

15 **SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.**

16           (a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

17               (1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins  
18 minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the  
19 game of baseball.

20               (2) DESIGNATIONS AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On  
21 each coin minted under this Act there shall be—

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

23                       (B) an inscription of the year “2015”; 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 design for the coins minted  
5 under this Act shall be—

6 (1) selected by the Secretary after consultation  
7 with the National Baseball Hall of Fame and the  
8 Commission of Fine Arts and in accordance with  
9 subparagraph (c); and

10 (2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory  
11 Committee.

12 (c) OBVERSE DESIGN COMPETITION.—The Secretary  
13 shall hold a competition and provide compensation for its  
14 winner to design the common obverse of the coins minted  
15 under this Act, with such design being emblematic of the  
16 game of baseball. The competition shall be held in the fol-  
17 lowing manner:

18 (1) The competition shall be judged by an ex-  
19 pert jury chaired by the Secretary and consisting of  
20 3 members from the Citizens Coinage Advisory Com-  
21 mittee who shall be elected by such Committee and  
22 3 members from the Commission of Fine Arts who  
23 shall be elected by such Commission.

1           (2) The Secretary shall determine compensation  
2           for the winning design, which shall be not less than  
3           \$5,000.

4           (3) The Secretary may not accept a design for  
5           the competition unless a plaster model accompanies  
6           the design.

7           (d) REVERSE DESIGN.—The design on the common  
8           reverse of the coins minted under this Act shall depict a  
9           baseball similar to those used by Major League Baseball.

10 **SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.**

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

13           (b) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may  
14           issue coins minted under this Act only during the 1-year  
15           period beginning on January 1, 2015.

16 **SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.**

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

20                   (1) the face value of the coins;

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

23                   (3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins  
24           (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery,  
25           overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

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

4           (c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

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

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

11 **SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.**

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

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

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

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

18           (b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of  
19 title 31, United States Code, all surcharges received by  
20 the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act  
21 shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the National  
22 Baseball Hall of Fame to help finance its operations.

23           (c) AUDITS.—The National Baseball Hall of Fame  
24 shall be subject to the audit requirements of section



1 5134(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code, with regard  
2 to the amounts received under subsection (b).

3 (d) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding subsection (a),  
4 no surcharge may be included with respect to the issuance  
5 under this Act of any coin during a calendar year if, as  
6 of the time of such issuance, the issuance of such coin  
7 would result in the number of commemorative coin pro-  
8 grams issued during such year to exceed the annual com-  
9 memorative coin program issuance limitation under sec-  
10 tion 5112(m)(1) of title 31, United States Code (as in ef-  
11 fect on the date of the enactment of this Act). The Sec-  
12 retary of the Treasury may issue guidance to carry out  
13 this subsection.

14 **SEC. 8. BUDGET COMPLIANCE.**

15 The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of  
16 complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010,  
17 shall be determined by reference to the latest statement  
18 titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this  
19 Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record  
20 by the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the

1 House of Representatives, provided that such statement  
2 has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

Passed the House of Representatives October 26,  
2011.

Attest:

KAREN L. HAAS,

*Clerk.*