

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5142

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 26, 2021

Received

AN ACT

To award posthumously a Congressional Gold Medal, in commemoration to the servicemembers who perished in Afghanistan on August 26, 2021, during the evacuation of citizens of the United States and Afghan allies at Hamid Karzai International Airport, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

4 The Congress finds the following:

5 (1) At 9:44 A.M., on August 26, 2021, the
6 Pentagon confirmed that one explosion occurred at
7 the Hamid Karzai International Airport.

8 (2) The explosion was confirmed to be a suicide
9 bombing by ISIS–K terrorist group.

10 (3) Estimates as high as 200 deaths were re-
11 ported, including 13 servicemembers of the United
12 States, as well as hundreds more wounded.

13 (4) The attack on Thursday, August 26, 2021,
14 at the Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul,
15 Afghanistan, killed 13 United States
16 servicemembers, making it the deadliest single day
17 of the war for the United States in more than a dec-
18 ade.

19 (5) The American servicemembers went above
20 and beyond the call of duty to protect citizens of the
21 United States and our allies to ensure they are
22 brought to safety in an extremely dangerous situa-
23 tion as the Taliban regained control over Afghani-
24 stan.

1 (6) The American servicemembers exemplified
2 extreme bravery and valor against armed enemy
3 combatants.

4 (7) The American servicemembers dedicated
5 their lives and their heroism deserves great honor.

6 (8) Maxton Soviak, Kareem Nikoui, David
7 Espinoza, Rylee McCollum, Jared Schmitz, Hunter
8 Lopez, Taylor Hoover, Daegan William-Tyler Page,
9 Nicole Gee, Humberto Sanchez, Dylan Merola,
10 Johanny Rosario Pichardo, and Ryan Knauss have
11 been identified as the 13 servicemembers who died
12 from the blast while stationed at Hamid Karzai
13 International Airport.

14 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDALS.**

15 (a) PRESENTATIONS AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of
16 the House of Representatives and the President pro tem-
17 pore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements
18 for the posthumous presentation, on behalf of the Con-
19 gress, of a single gold medal of appropriate design in com-
20 memoration to the 13 servicemembers who perished in Af-
21 ghanistan, on August 26, 2021.

22 (b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purposes of the
23 presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary
24 of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the
25 “Secretary”) shall strike a gold medal with suitable em-

1 blem, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the
2 Secretary.

3 (c) SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Following the award of the
5 gold medal under subsection (a), the gold medal
6 shall be given to the Smithsonian Institution, where
7 it shall be available for display as appropriate and
8 made available for research.

9 (2) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of
10 Congress that the Smithsonian Institution shall
11 make the gold medal received under paragraph (1)
12 available for display outside of the District of Co-
13 lumbia at times, particularly at other locations asso-
14 ciated with the 13 servicemembers who perished in
15 Afghanistan on August 26, 2021.

16 **SEC. 3. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

17 The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in
18 bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to section 2 at
19 a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor,
20 materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.

21 **SEC. 4. STATUS OF MEDALS.**

22 (a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medal struck pursuant
23 to this Act is a national medal for purposes of chapter
24 51 of title 31, United States Code.

1 (b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section
2 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all medals struck
3 under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

4 **SEC. 5. AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS; PROCEEDS OF**
5 **SALE.**

6 (a) AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.—There is
7 authorized to be charged against the United States Mint
8 Public Enterprise Fund such amounts as may be nec-
9 essary to pay for the costs of the medals struck pursuant
10 to this Act.

11 (b) PROCEEDS OF SALE.—The amounts received
12 from the sale of duplicate bronze medals authorized under
13 section 3 shall be deposited into the United States Mint
14 Public Enterprise Fund.

15 **SEC. 6. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.**

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

1 vided that such statement has been submitted prior to the
2 vote on passage.

Passed the House of Representatives October 25,
2021.

Attest: CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.