

Public Law 100-673  
100th Congress

An Act

Nov. 17, 1988  
[H.R. 5280]

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the Bicentennial of the United States Congress.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

Bicentennial of  
the United  
States Congress  
Commemorative  
Coin Act.  
31 USC 5112  
note.  
31 USC 5112  
note.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Bicentennial of the United States Congress Commemorative Coin Act".

SEC. 2. SPECIFICATIONS OF COINS.

(a) FIVE DOLLAR GOLD COINS.—

(1) ISSUANCE.—The Secretary of the Treasury (hereinafter in this Act referred to as the "Secretary") shall mint and issue not more than 1,000,000 five dollar coins each of which shall—

- (A) weigh 8.359 grams;
- (B) have a diameter of .850 inches; and
- (C) be composed of 90 percent gold and 10 percent alloy.

(2) DESIGN.—The design of the five dollar coins shall, in accordance with section 4, be emblematic of the Bicentennial of the United States Congress. Each five dollar coin shall bear a designation of the value of the coin, an inscription of the year "1989", and inscriptions of the words "Liberty", "In God We Trust", "United States of America", and "E Pluribus Unum".

(b) ONE DOLLAR SILVER COINS.—

(1) ISSUANCE.—The Secretary shall mint and issue not more than 3,000,000 one dollar coins each of which shall—

- (A) weigh 26.73 grams;
- (B) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and
- (C) be composed of 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

(2) DESIGN.—The design of the one dollar coins shall, in accordance with section 4, be emblematic of the Bicentennial of the United States Congress. Each one dollar coin shall bear a designation of the value of the coin, an inscription of the year "1989", and inscriptions of the words "Liberty", "In God We Trust", "United States of America", and "E Pluribus Unum".

(c) HALF DOLLAR CLAD COINS.—

(1) ISSUANCE.—The Secretary shall issue not more than 4,000,000 half dollar coins each of which shall—

- (A) weigh 11.34 grams;
- (B) have a diameter of 1.205 inches; and
- (C) be minted to the specifications for half dollar coins contained in section 5112(b) of title 31, United States Code.

(2) DESIGN.—The design of the half dollar coins shall, in accordance with section 4, be emblematic of the Bicentennial of the United States Congress. On each half dollar coin shall be a designation of the value of the coin, an inscription of the year

“1989”, and inscriptions of the words “Liberty”, “In God We Trust”, “United States of America”, and “E Pluribus Unum”.

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

(e) **NUMISMATIC ITEMS.**—For purposes of section 5132(a)(1) of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

### SEC. 3. SOURCES OF BULLION.

(a) **GOLD.**—The Secretary shall obtain gold for minting coins under this Act pursuant to the authority of the Secretary under existing law.

(b) **SILVER.**—The Secretary shall obtain silver for minting coins under this Act only from stockpiles established under the Strategic and Critical Minerals Stock Piling Act (50 U.S.C. 98 et seq.).

### SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.

The design for each coin authorized by this Act shall be selected by the Secretary after consultation with the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President pro tempore of the Senate, and the Commission of Fine Arts.

### SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.

(a) **FIVE DOLLAR COINS.**—The five dollar coins minted under this Act may be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities and shall be struck at the United States Mint at West Point, New York.

(b) **ONE DOLLAR AND HALF DOLLAR COINS.**—The one dollar and half dollar coins minted under this Act may be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities, except that not more than one facility of the United States Mint may be used to strike any particular combination of denomination and quality.

(c) **COMMENCEMENT OF ISSUANCE.**—The Secretary may issue the coins minted under this Act beginning January 1, 1989.

(d) **TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.**—Coins may not be minted under this Act after June 30, 1990.

(e) **CONTRACTS.**—Any contract to be made by the Secretary involving the promotion, advertising, or marketing of any coins authorized under this Act shall be valid only upon approval by the United States Capitol Preservation Commission.

### SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary shall sell the coins minted under this Act at a price equal to the face value, plus the cost of designing and issuing the coins (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses).

(b) **BULK SALES.**—The Secretary shall make any bulk sales of the coins minted under this Act at a reasonable discount to reflect the lower costs of such sales.

(c) **PREPAID ORDERS.**—The Secretary shall accept prepaid orders for the coins minted under this Act prior to the issuance of such coins. Sale prices with respect to such prepaid orders shall be at a reasonable discount.

(d) **SURCHARGES.**—All sales of coins minted under this Act shall include a surcharge of \$35 per coin for the five dollar coins, \$7 per coin for the one dollar coins, and \$1 per coin for the half dollar coins.

31 USC 5112  
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**SEC. 7. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.**

(a) **NO NET COST TO THE GOVERNMENT.**—The Secretary shall take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that minting and issuing coins under this Act will not result in any net cost to the United States Government.

(b) **PAYMENT FOR COINS.**—A coin shall not be issued under this Act unless the Secretary has received—

(1) full payment for the coin;

(2) security satisfactory to the Secretary to indemnify the United States for full payment; or

(3) a guarantee of full payment satisfactory to the Secretary from a depository institution whose deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation, or the National Credit Union Administration Board.

31 USC 5112  
note.

**SEC. 8. USE OF SURCHARGES.**

(a) **USE OF SURCHARGES.**—Fifty percent of the first \$40,000,000 in surcharges that are received by the Secretary from the sale of coins minted under this Act shall be deposited in the Capitol Preservation Fund and be available to the United States Capitol Preservation Commission. The balance of the surcharges received by the Secretary shall be deposited in the general fund of the Treasury for the sole purpose of reducing the national debt.

(b) **RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF SURCHARGES.**—

(1) **PROHIBITION ON REPRESENTATIONAL EXPENSES.**—No amount received by the Commission from the Capitol Preservation Fund may be used to pay representational expenses of the Commission.

(2) **LIMITATIONS ON REIMBURSEMENTS.**—A member of an advisory board established by the Commission shall be entitled to receive per diem, travel and transportation expenses in the same manner as an employee serving intermittently in the Government service may receive under section 5703 of title 5, United States Code.

(c) **REPORT REQUIRED.**—The Commission shall submit a report of expenditures to the Clerk of the House of Representatives not later than February 28 for the last six months of the preceding year and not later than August 31 for the first six months of the current year. The Clerk shall promptly transmit the reports to the Public Printer for printing in the Congressional Record.

31 USC 5112  
note.

**SEC. 9. GENERAL WAIVER OF PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in subsection (b), no provision of law governing procurement or public contracts shall be applicable to the procurement of goods and services necessary for carrying out the provisions of this Act.

(b) **EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY.**—Subsection (a) shall not relieve any person entering into a contract under the authority of

this Act from complying with any law relating to equal employment opportunity.

Approved November 17, 1988.

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**LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 5280:**

**CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 134 (1988):**

Oct. 3, 4, considered and passed House.

Oct. 7, considered and passed Senate, amended.

Oct. 20, House concurred in Senate amendment with an amendment. Senate concurred in House amendment.

