

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2453

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration
of the African-American Civil War veterans.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 11, 1997

Ms. NORTON (for herself, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. CHRISTIAN-GREEN, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. WELLER, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. CLAY, Mr. FROST, Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. HOLDEN, Ms. RIVERS, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. BROWN of California, Mr. FILNER, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. RUSH, Mr. OWENS, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. DELLUMS, Mr. DIXON, Ms. KILPATRICK, Ms. CARSON, Mr. HILLIARD, Mr. WYNN, and Mr. FORD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services

A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins
in commemoration of the African-American Civil War
veterans.

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 “African-American Civil
5 War Memorial Commemorative Coin Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.**

2 (a) \$1 SILVER COINS.—In commemoration of Afri-
3 can-American Civil War veterans, the Secretary of the
4 Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Sec-
5 retary”) shall mint and issue not more than 500,000 1
6 dollar coins, which shall—

7 (1) weigh 26.73 grams;

8 (2) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

9 (3) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent
10 copper.

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

14 (c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections
15 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins
16 minted under this Act shall be considered to be numis-
17 matic items.

18 **SEC. 3. SOURCES OF BULLION.**

19 The Secretary shall obtain silver for minting coins
20 under this Act only from stockpiles established under the
21 Strategic and Critical Materials Stock Piling Act.

22 **SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.**

23 (a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins
25 minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the Af-
26 rican-American Civil War Memorial.

1 (2) DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On
2 each coin minted under this Act there shall be—

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

4 (B) an inscription of the year “2001”; and

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

8 (b) SELECTION.—The design for the coins minted
9 under this Act shall be—

10 (1) selected by the Secretary after consultation
11 with the African-American Civil War Memorial Free-
12 dom Foundation and the Commission of Fine Arts;
13 and

14 (2) reviewed by the Citizens Commemorative
15 Coin Advisory Committee.

16 **SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.**

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

19 (b) MINT FACILITY.—Only 1 facility of the United
20 States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality
21 of the coins minted under this Act.

22 (c) COMMENCEMENT OF ISSUANCE.—The Secretary
23 may issue coins minted under this Act beginning January
24 1, 2001.

1 (d) TERMINATION OF MINTING AUTHORITY.—No
2 coins may be minted under this Act after December 31,
3 2001.

4 **SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.**

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

8 (1) the face value of the coins;

9 (2) the surcharge provided in subsection (d)
10 with respect to such coins; and

11 (3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins
12 (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery,
13 overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

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

17 (c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

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

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

24 (d) SURCHARGES.—All sales shall include a sur-
25 charge of \$10 per coin.

1 **SEC. 7. GENERAL WAIVER OF PROCUREMENT REGULA-**
2 **TIONS.**

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

8 (b) EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY.—Sub-
9 section (a) shall not relieve any person entering into a con-
10 tract under the authority of this Act from complying with
11 any law relating to equal employment opportunity.

12 **SEC. 8. DISTRIBUTION OF SURCHARGES.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—All surcharges received by the
14 Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall
15 be promptly paid by the Secretary to the African-Amer-
16 ican Civil War Memorial Freedom Foundation for the pur-
17 pose of supporting the construction and maintenance of
18 an African-American Civil War Memorial and the Garnet-
19 Patterson Family Heritage Center (Visitors' Center).

20 (b) AUDITS.—The Comptroller General of the United
21 States shall have the right to examine such books, records,
22 documents, and other data of the African-American Civil
23 War Memorial Freedom Foundation as may be related to
24 the expenditures of amounts paid under subsection (a).

1 **SEC. 9. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.**

2 (a) NO NET COST TO THE GOVERNMENT.—The Sec-
3 retary shall take such actions as may be necessary to en-
4 sure that minting and issuing coins under this Act will
5 not result in any net cost to the United States Govern-
6 ment.

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

9 (1) full payment for the coin;

10 (2) security satisfactory to the Secretary to in-
11 demnify the United States for full payment; or

12 (3) a guarantee of full payment satisfactory to
13 the Secretary from a depository institution whose
14 deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insur-
15 ance Corporation or the National Credit Union Ad-
16 ministration Board.

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