

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2717

To authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress honoring Wilma G. Rudolph in recognition of her enduring contributions to humanity and women's athletics in the United States and the world.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 23, 1997

Ms. KILPATRICK (for herself, Mr. BLAGOJEVICH, Mr. BLUMENAUER Mr. BONIOR, Mr. CAPPS, Ms. CARSON, Ms. CHRISTIAN-GREEN, Mr. CLEMENT, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. DELLUMS, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. FILNER, Mr. FORD, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. FROST, Mr. GORDON, Mr. HILLIARD, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. JENKINS, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. LANTOS, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. POSHARD, Ms. RIVERS, Mr. RUSH, Mr. SANDLIN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. STARK, Mr. THOMPSON, Ms. WATERS, Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma, Ms. WOOLSEY, and Mr. WYNN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services

A BILL

To authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress honoring Wilma G. Rudolph in recognition of her enduring contributions to humanity and women's athletics in the United States and the world.

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. FINDINGS.**

2 The Congress finds that—

3 (1) Wilma G. Rudolph of Clarksville, Ten-
4 nessee, the 20th of 22 children, overcame a series of
5 childhood diseases, including scarlet fever, double
6 pneumonia, and polio, to become an athletic pioneer
7 and champion in the State of Tennessee, the United
8 States, and the world, first as an outstanding bas-
9 ketball player and track athlete in Tennessee, then
10 as a three-time gold medal winner in the 1960
11 Olympics in Rome, and finally as a pioneer for racial
12 equality, goodwill, and justice;

13 (2) Wilma G. Rudolph's winning of 3 gold med-
14 als in the 1960 Olympics served as an inspiration to
15 athletes of all sports, races, and genders;

16 (3) Wilma G. Rudolph's ability to inspire en-
17 dured after her performance in the 1960 Olympics,
18 as demonstrated by—

19 (A) her receipt in 1987 of the National
20 Collegiate Athletic Association's Silver Anniver-
21 sary Award, the first time a woman ever re-
22 ceived the award;

23 (B) her receipt of the 1989 Jackie Robin-
24 son Image Award of the National Association
25 for the Advancement of Colored People
26 (NAACP);

1 (C) her induction into the National Track
2 and Field Hall of Fame in 1973;

3 (D) her receipt of the 1985 Humanitarian
4 of the Year Award of the Special Olympics; and

5 (E) her receipt in 1993 of the National
6 Sports Award from President William J. Clin-
7 ton, the only time a woman has received the
8 award;

9 (4) Wilma G. Rudolph, a graduate of Tennessee
10 State University, a successful businessperson, a
11 mother, an athlete, a coach, and a teacher, who
12 passed away on November 12, 1994, will forever re-
13 main an inspiration to all able-bodied and physically
14 challenged individuals in overcoming odds;

15 (5) Wilma G. Rudolph blazed a trail that
16 helped all people understand the contributions of
17 women to the world of athletics;

18 (6) Wilma G. Rudolph set the stage for the en-
19 actment of title IX of the Education Amendments of
20 1972, which prohibits sex discrimination in edu-
21 cation programs receiving Federal assistance, and
22 which has led to increased participation in athletics
23 by women and more career options for women in the
24 United States;

1 (7) the legacy of Wilma G. Rudolph continues
2 to serve as a particular inspiration to women who,
3 25 years after the enactment of title IX of the Edu-
4 cation Amendments of 1972, are able to reap the
5 benefits of increased access to athletics; and

6 (8) Wilma G. Rudolph’s life truly embodied the
7 American values of hard work, determination, and
8 love of humanity.

9 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.**

10 (a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The President is
11 authorized to award, on behalf of the Congress, a gold
12 medal of appropriate design honoring Wilma G. Rudolph
13 in recognition of her outstanding and enduring contribu-
14 tions to humanity and to women’s athletics in the United
15 States and the world.

16 (b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purpose of the
17 award referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the
18 Treasury (in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”) shall
19 strike a gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and
20 inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

21 **SEC. 3. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

22 The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in
23 bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to section 2
24 under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe,
25 and at a price sufficient to cover the costs thereof, includ-

1 ing labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead
2 expenses, and the cost of the gold medal.

3 **SEC. 4. STATUS AS NATIONAL MEDALS.**

4 The medals struck pursuant to this Act are national
5 medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United
6 States Code.

7 **SEC. 5. FUNDING.**

8 (a) **AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.**—There is
9 authorized to be charged against the United States Mint
10 Public Enterprise Fund an amount not to exceed \$30,000
11 to pay for the cost of the medals authorized by this Act.

12 (b) **PROCEEDS OF SALE.**—Amounts received from the
13 sale of duplicate bronze medals under section 3 shall be
14 deposited in the United States Mint Public Enterprise
15 Fund.

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