

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4448

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration
of Native American history and culture.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 6, 1998

Mr. BROWN of California (for himself, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. FROST, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. PASTOR, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. BLAGOJEVICH, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. FILNER, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. HAYWORTH, Mr. WATKINS, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. REDMOND, Mr. COBURN, Mr. KILDEE, and Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island) 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 Native American history and culture.

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 “Buffalo Coin Act of
5 1998”.

1 **SEC. 2. BUFFALO HALF DOLLAR.**

2 Section 5112 of title 31, United States Code, is
3 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
4 section:

5 “(n) **BUFFALO HALF DOLLAR.**—

6 “(1) **DENOMINATIONS.**—Notwithstanding any
7 other provision of law, the Secretary shall mint and
8 issue each year not more than 500,000 half dollar
9 coins, minted in accordance with this title.

10 “(2) **DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.**—The design of
11 the half dollar coins minted under this subsection
12 shall be based on the original 5-cent buffalo nickel
13 designed by James Earle Fraser and minted from
14 1913 to 1938. Each coin shall have on the obverse
15 a profile representation of a Native American, and
16 on the reverse a representation of a buffalo.

17 “(3) **SELECTION.**—The design for the coins
18 minted under this subsection shall be—

19 “(A) selected by the Secretary, after con-
20 sultation with the Committee on Banking,
21 Housing, and Urban Affairs and the Committee
22 on Indian Affairs of the Senate and the Com-
23 mission of Fine Arts; and

24 “(B) reviewed by the Citizens Commemo-
25 rative Coin Advisory Committee.

1 “(4) QUALITY OF COINS.—Coins minted under
2 this subsection shall be issued in uncirculated and
3 proof qualities.

4 “(5) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary
5 may issue coins minted under this subsection only
6 during the period beginning on January 1, 2001,
7 and ending on December 31, 2001.

8 “(6) SOURCES OF BULLION.—The Secretary
9 shall obtain silver for minting coins under this sub-
10 section from sources that the Secretary finds appro-
11 priate, including from stockpiles established under
12 the Strategic and Critical Materials Stockpiling Act.

13 “(7) MINT FACILITY.—Only 1 facility of the
14 United States Mint may be used to strike any par-
15 ticular quality of the coins minted under this sub-
16 section.

17 “(8) SALE OF COINS.—

18 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The coins issued
19 under this subsection shall be sold by the Sec-
20 retary at a price equal to the sum of—

21 “(i) the face value of the coins;

22 “(ii) the surcharge provided in sub-
23 paragraph (D) with respect to such coins;
24 and

1 “(iii) the cost of designing and issuing
2 the coins (including labor, materials, dies,
3 use of machinery, overhead expenses, mar-
4 keting, and shipping).

5 “(B) BULK SALES.—The Secretary shall
6 make bulk sales of the coins issued under this
7 subsection at a reasonable discount.

8 “(C) PREPAID ORDERS.—The Secretary
9 shall accept prepaid orders for the coins minted
10 under this subsection before the issuance of
11 such coins. Sale prices with respect to prepaid
12 orders shall be at a reasonable discount.

13 “(D) SURCHARGES.—All sales of coins
14 minted under this subsection shall include a
15 surcharge of \$3 per coin.

16 “(9) DISTRIBUTION OF SURCHARGES.—All sur-
17 charges received by the Secretary from the sale of
18 coins issued under this subsection shall be paid
19 promptly by the Secretary to the Numismatic Public
20 Enterprise Fund established under section 5134.
21 Proceeds from the sale of coins minted under this
22 subsection shall be made available to the National
23 Museum of the American Indian for the purposes
24 of—

1 “(A) commemorating the 10th anniversary
2 of the establishment of the Museum; and
3 “(B) supplementing the endowment and
4 educational outreach funds of the Museum.”.

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