

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 292

Expressing the sense of the Senate regarding tactile currency for the blind
and visually impaired.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 8 (legislative day, OCTOBER 2), 1998

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN submitted the following resolution; which was referred
to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate regarding tactile currency
for the blind and visually impaired.

Whereas currency is used by virtually everyone in everyday
life, including blind and visually impaired persons;

Whereas the Federal reserve notes of the United States are
inaccessible to individuals with visual disabilities;

Whereas the Americans with Disabilities Act enhances the
economic independence and equal opportunity for full
participation in society for individuals with disabilities;

Whereas most blind and visually impaired persons are there-
fore required to rely upon others to determine denomina-
tions of such currency;

Whereas this constitutes a serious impediment to independ-
ence in everyday living;

Whereas electronic means of bill identification will always be more fallible than purely tactile means;

Whereas tactile currency already exists in 23 countries worldwide; and

Whereas the currency of the United States is presently undergoing significant changes for security purposes: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) endorses the efforts recently begun by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to upgrade the currency for security reasons; and

(2) strongly encourages the Secretary of the Treasury and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to incorporate cost-effective, tactile features into the design changes, thereby including the blind and visually impaired community in independent currency usage.

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