

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1821

To authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. in recognition of his outstanding and enduring contributions to the Nation.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 14, 1999

Mr. RANGEL (for himself, Mr. ROMERO-BARCELÓ, Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin, Mrs. THURMAN, Mr. FROST, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. BLAGOJEVICH, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Ms. CARSON, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Mr. OLVER, Mr. ROEMER, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. GEPHARDT, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. PHELPS, Mrs. CLAYTON, Ms. WATERS, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. DIXON, Mr. FORD, Mr. HILLIARD, Mr. RUSH, Mr. TOWNS, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. OWENS, and Ms. BROWN of Florida) 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 to Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. in recognition of his outstanding and enduring contributions to the Nation.

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. FINDINGS.**

4 The Congress makes the following findings:

1 (1) Jesse Louis Jackson, Sr. was born on Octo-
2 ber 8, 1941, in Greenville, South Carolina.

3 (2) In 1965 Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. joined the
4 civil rights movement full-time, beginning his activ-
5 ism as a student leader in the sit-in movement and
6 continuing as a young organizer for the Southern
7 Christian Leadership Conference as an assistant to
8 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

9 (3) On June 30, 1968, Jesse L. Jackson, Sr.
10 became an ordained minister, having attended the
11 Chicago Theological Seminary.

12 (4) Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. served as the national
13 director for Operation Breadbasket and, in 1971 in
14 Chicago, Illinois, founded People United to Save Hu-
15 manity, known as PUSH.

16 (5) In 1984 Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. founded the
17 National Rainbow Coalition, a national social justice
18 organization devoted to political empowerment and
19 to expanding educational and employment opportuni-
20 ties for disadvantaged people and for communities of
21 color.

22 (6) In 1996 Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. merged the
23 National Rainbow Coalition and PUSH to continue
24 the philosophies of both organizations and to maxi-
25 mize their resources.

1 (7) Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. is, and has been for
2 more than 30 years, one of the foremost political fig-
3 ures in the United States, playing a pivotal role in
4 virtually every movement for human rights, civil
5 rights, peace, gender equality, empowerment, and
6 economic and social justice.

7 (8) Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. has been and con-
8 tinues to be counted on to serve as a champion and
9 spokesman for a segment of the population whose
10 voices all too often are not heard.

11 (9) Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. has been called the
12 “conscience of the Nation” and the “great unifier”,
13 challenging the United States to establish just and
14 humane priorities.

15 (10) Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. has led a myriad of
16 successful delegations, marches, and missions for
17 justice, peace, and reconciliation.

18 (11) Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. is a highly respected
19 world leader who has acted on many occasions as an
20 international diplomat.

21 (12) In 1984 Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. secured the
22 release of a captured Navy pilot, Lieutenant Robert
23 Goodman, who was shot down over Lebanon. He
24 also negotiated the release of 22 Americans and 26
25 Cubans in Cuba during 1984.

1 (13) In 1990 Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. won the re-
2 lease of hundreds of foreign nationals, including 47
3 Americans, being held in Iraq and Kuwait by Sad-
4 dam Hussein.

5 (14) In October 1997 Jesse L. Jackson, Sr.
6 was appointed by President William Jefferson Clin-
7 ton and by Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright
8 as the Special Envoy of the President and the Sec-
9 retary of State for the Promotion of Democracy in
10 Africa.

11 (15) On May 2, 1999, Jesse L. Jackson, Sr.
12 obtained the negotiated release of Army Specialist
13 Steven M. Gonzales and Staff Sergeants Christopher
14 J. Stone and Andrew Ramirez, 3 United States sol-
15 diers who had spent 32 days in captivity in Yugo-
16 slavia as prisoners of war and hostages.

17 (16) Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. has dedicated his
18 life to the principles of freedom, peace, justice, inter-
19 national good will, and the struggle for civil rights
20 and equality for Americans and for all peoples, at
21 home and abroad.

22 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.**

23 (a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The President is
24 authorized to present, on behalf of the Congress, a gold
25 medal of appropriate design to Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. in

1 recognition of his outstanding and enduring contributions
2 to the Nation.

3 (b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purpose of the
4 presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary
5 of the Treasury shall strike a gold medal with suitable em-
6 blems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the
7 Secretary.

8 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATION.—Effective
9 February 1, 1999, there are authorized to be appropriated
10 \$30,000 to carry out this section.

11 **SEC. 3. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

12 (a) STRIKING AND SALE.—The Secretary of the
13 Treasury may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the
14 gold medal struck under section 2 under such regulations
15 as the Secretary may prescribe, at a price sufficient to
16 cover the cost thereof, including labor, materials, dies, use
17 of machinery, and overhead expenses, and the cost of the
18 gold medal.

19 (b) REIMBURSEMENT OF APPROPRIATION.—The ap-
20 propriation used to carry out section 2 shall be reimbursed
21 out of the proceeds of sales under subsection (a).

22 **SEC. 4. NATIONAL MEDALS.**

23 The medals struck under this Act are national medals
24 for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

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