

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 941

To establish a congressional commemorative medal for organ donors and their families.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 2, 1999

Mr. STARK (for himself, Mr. HORN, Mr. SPENCE, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. MOAKLEY, Mr. KLECZKA, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. FROST, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. LUTHER, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mrs. THURMAN, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. WYNN, Mrs. CLAYTON, Mr. HALL of Ohio, Ms. NORTON, Mr. WAXMAN, and Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To establish a congressional commemorative medal for organ donors and their families.

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 “Gift of Life Congres-
5 sional Medal Act of 1999”.

1 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL.**

2 The Secretary of the Treasury shall design and strike
3 a bronze medal with suitable emblems, devices, and in-
4 scriptions, to be determined by the Secretary of the Treas-
5 ury, to commemorate organ donors and their families.

6 **SEC. 3. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Any organ donor, or the family
8 of any organ donor, shall be eligible for a medal described
9 in section 2.

10 (b) DOCUMENTATION.—The Secretary of Health and
11 Human Services shall direct the entity holding the Organ
12 Procurement and Transplantation Network (hereafter in
13 this Act referred to as “OPTN”) to contract to—

14 (1) establish an application procedure requiring
15 the relevant organ procurement organization, as de-
16 scribed in section 371(b)(1) of the Public Health
17 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 273(b)(1)), through which an
18 individual or their family made an organ donation,
19 to submit to the OPTN contractor documentation
20 supporting the eligibility of that individual or their
21 family to receive a medal described in section 2; and

22 (2) determine, through the documentation pro-
23 vided, and, if necessary, independent investigation,
24 whether the individual or family is eligible to receive
25 a medal described in section 2.

1 **SEC. 4. PRESENTATION.**

2 (a) DELIVERY TO THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
3 HUMAN SERVICES.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall
4 deliver medals struck pursuant to this Act to the Secretary
5 of Health and Human Services.

6 (b) DELIVERY TO ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.—The Sec-
7 retary of Health and Human Services shall direct the
8 OPTN contractor to arrange for the presentation to the
9 relevant organ procurement organization all medals struck
10 pursuant to this Act to individuals or families that, in ac-
11 cordance with section 3, the OPTN contractor has deter-
12 mined to be eligible to receive medals under this Act.

13 (c) LIMITATION.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
15 graph (2), only 1 medal may be presented to a fam-
16 ily under subsection (b). Such medal shall be pre-
17 sented to the donating family member, or in the case
18 of a deceased donor, the family member who signed
19 the consent form authorizing, or who otherwise au-
20 thorized, the donation of the organ involved.

21 (2) EXCEPTION.—In the case of a family in
22 which more than 1 member is an organ donor, the
23 OPTN contractor may present an additional medal
24 to each such organ donor or their family.

1 **SEC. 5. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and
3 Human Services or the OPTN contractor may provide du-
4 plicates of the medal described in section 2 to any recipi-
5 ent of a medal under section 4(b), under such regulations
6 as the Secretary of Health and Human Services may
7 issue.

8 (b) LIMITATION.—The price of a duplicate medal
9 shall be sufficient to cover the cost of such duplicates.

10 **SEC. 6. NATIONAL MEDALS.**

11 The medals struck pursuant to this Act are national
12 medals for purposes of section 5111 of title 31, United
13 States Code.

14 **SEC. 7. GENERAL WAIVER OF PROCUREMENT REGULA-**
15 **TIONS.**

16 No provision of law governing procurement or public
17 contracts shall be applicable to the procurement of goods
18 or services necessary for carrying out the provisions of this
19 Act.

20 **SEC. 8. SOLICITATION OF DONATIONS.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury
22 may enter into an agreement with the OPTN contractor
23 to collect funds to offset expenditures relating to the
24 issuance of medals authorized under this Act.

25 (b) PAYMENT OF FUNDS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
2 graph (2), all funds received by the Organ Procure-
3 ment and Transplantation Network under subsection
4 (a) shall be promptly paid by the Organ Procure-
5 ment and Transplantation Network to the Secretary
6 of the Treasury.

7 (2) LIMITATION.—Not more than 5 percent of
8 any funds received under subsection (a) shall be
9 used to pay administrative costs incurred by the
10 OPTN contractor as a result of an agreement estab-
11 lished under this section.

12 (c) NUMISMATIC PUBLIC ENTERPRISE FUND.—Not-
13 withstanding any other provision of law—

14 (1) all amounts received by the Secretary of the
15 Treasury under subsection (b)(1) shall be deposited
16 in the Numismatic Public Enterprise Fund, as de-
17 scribed in section 5134 of title 31, United States
18 Code; and

19 (2) the Secretary of the Treasury shall charge
20 such fund with all expenditures relating to the
21 issuance of medals authorized under this Act.

22 (d) START-UP COSTS.—A 1-time amount not to ex-
23 ceed \$55,000 shall be provided to the OPTN contractor
24 to cover initial start-up costs. The amount will be paid

1 back in full within 3 years of the date of the enactment
2 of this Act from funds received under subsection (a).

3 (e) NO NET COST TO THE GOVERNMENT.—The Sec-
4 retary of the Treasury shall take all actions necessary to
5 ensure that the issuance of medals authorized under sec-
6 tion 2 results in no net cost to the Government.

7 **SEC. 9. DEFINITIONS.**

8 For purposes of this Act—

9 (1) the term “organ” means the human kidney,
10 liver, heart, lung, pancreas, and any other human
11 organ (other than corneas and eyes) specified by
12 regulation of the Secretary of Health and Human
13 Services or the OPTN contractor; and

14 (2) the term “Organ Procurement and Trans-
15 plantation Network” means the Organ Procurement
16 and Transplantation Network established under sec-
17 tion 372 of the Public Health Service Act (42
18 U.S.C. 274).

19 **SEC. 10. SUNSET PROVISION.**

20 This Act shall be effective during the 5-year period
21 beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

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