

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 368

To authorize the minting and issuance of a commemorative coin in honor
of the founding of Biloxi, Mississippi.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 4, 1999

Mr. COCHRAN (for himself and Mr. LOTT) introduced the following bill; which
was read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and
Urban Affairs

A BILL

To authorize the minting and issuance of a commemorative
coin in honor of the founding of Biloxi, Mississippi.

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 Biloxi Tricentennial
5 Commemorative Coin Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. COMMEMORATIVE COINS IN HONOR OF THE**
7 **FOUNDING OF BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI.**

8 (a) COIN SPECIFICATIONS.—The Secretary of the
9 Treasury (hereafter in this section referred to as the “Sec-
10 retary”) shall mint and issue each of the following coins:

1 (1) \$10 GOLD COINS.—Not more than 100,000
2 \$10 coins, each of which shall—

3 (A) weigh 16.718 grams;

4 (B) have a diameter of 1.06 inches; and

5 (C) contain 90 percent gold and 10 percent
6 alloy.

7 (2) \$1 SILVER COINS.—Not more than 500,000
8 \$1 coins, each of which shall—

9 (A) weigh 26.73 grams;

10 (B) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

11 (C) contain 90 percent silver and 10 per-
12 cent copper.

13 (3) HALF DOLLAR CLAD COINS.—Not more
14 than 750,000 half dollar coins each of which shall—

15 (A) weigh 11.34 grams;

16 (B) have a diameter of 1.205 inches; and

17 (C) be minted to the specifications for half
18 dollar coins contained in section 5112(b) of title
19 31, United States Code.

20 (b) LEGAL TENDER.—The coins minted under this
21 section shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103
22 of title 31, United States Code.

23 (c) SOURCES OF BULLION.—The Secretary shall ob-
24 tain gold and silver for minting coins under this section
25 pursuant to the authority of the Secretary under other

1 provisions of law, including authority relating to the use
 2 of silver stockpiles established under the Strategic and
 3 Critical Materials Stockpiling Act, as applicable.

4 (d) DESIGN OF COINS.—

5 (1) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

6 (A) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins
 7 minted under this section shall be emblematic
 8 of the landing of Pierre LeMoyne Sieur
 9 D'Iberville on the shores of present day Biloxi,
 10 Mississippi, on February 13, 1699.

11 (B) DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.—

12 On each coin minted under this section there
 13 shall be—

14 (i) a designation of the value of the
 15 coin;

16 (ii) an inscription of the year 1999;
 17 and

18 (iii) inscriptions of the words “Lib-
 19 erty”, “In God We Trust”, “United States
 20 of America”, and “E Pluribus Unum”.

21 (2) SELECTION.—The design for the coins
 22 minted under this section shall be—

23 (A) selected by the Secretary after con-
 24 sultation with the Board of Directors of the Bi-

1 loxi Tricentennial Commission and the Commis-
2 sion of Fine Arts; and

3 (B) reviewed by the Citizens Commemora-
4 tive Coin Advisory Committee.

5 (e) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE OF COINS.—The Sec-
6 retary may issue coins minted under this section only dur-
7 ing the period beginning on January 1, 1999, and ending
8 on December 31, 1999.

9 (f) SALE OF COINS.—

10 (1) SALE PRICE.—The coins issued under this
11 section shall be sold by the Secretary at a price
12 equal to the sum of—

13 (A) the face value of the coins;

14 (B) the surcharge provided in paragraph
15 (4) with respect to such coins; and

16 (C) the cost of designing and issuing the
17 coins (including labor, materials, dies, use of
18 machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and
19 shipping).

20 (2) BULK SALES.—The Secretary shall make
21 bulk sales of the coins issued under this section at
22 a reasonable discount.

23 (3) PREPAID ORDERS.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall ac-
 2 cept prepaid orders for the coins minted under
 3 this section before the issuance of such coins.

4 (B) DISCOUNT.—Sale prices with respect
 5 to prepaid orders under subparagraph (A) shall
 6 be at a reasonable discount.

7 (4) SURCHARGES.—All sales shall include a
 8 surcharge of—

9 (A) \$35 per coin for the \$10 coin;

10 (B) \$10 per coin for the \$1 coin; and

11 (C) \$1 per coin for the half dollar coin.

12 (g) GENERAL WAIVER OF PROCUREMENT REGULA-
 13 TIONS.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
 15 graph (2), no provision of law governing procure-
 16 ment or public contracts shall be applicable to the
 17 procurement of goods and services necessary for car-
 18 rying out this section.

19 (2) EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY.—
 20 Paragraph (1) does not relieve any person entering
 21 into a contract under the authority of this section
 22 from complying with any law relating to equal em-
 23 ployment opportunity.

24 (h) TREATMENT AS NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For pur-
 25 poses of sections 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States

1 Code, all coins minted under this subsection shall be con-
 2 sidered to be numismatic items.

3 (i) DISTRIBUTION OF SURCHARGES.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to section 5134 of
 5 title 31, United States Code, all surcharges received
 6 by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under
 7 this section shall be promptly paid by the
 8 Secretary—

9 (A) to the Biloxi Tricentennial Commis-
 10 sion, Inc., for the purpose of planning and im-
 11 plementing the 1999 Tricentennial Celebration
 12 in Biloxi, Mississippi; and

13 (B) upon dissolution of the Biloxi Tri-
 14 centennial Commission, Inc., to Biloxi First,
 15 Inc., for the purpose of funding educational
 16 projects directly related to local history instruc-
 17 tion for students in the public school system in
 18 Biloxi, Mississippi.

19 (2) AUDITS.—The Comptroller General of the
 20 United States shall have the right to examine such
 21 books, records, documents, and other data of the Bi-
 22 loxi Tricentennial Commission, Inc., and Biloxi
 23 First, Inc., as may be related to the expenditures of
 24 amounts paid under paragraph (1).

1 (j) FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.—The Secretary shall
2 take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that mint-
3 ing and issuing coins under this section will not result in
4 any net cost to the United States Government.

