

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3054

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 19 (legislative day, DECEMBER 18), 2001

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and
Urban Affairs

AN ACT

To award congressional gold medals on behalf of government workers who responded to the attacks on the World Trade Center and perished and on behalf of people aboard United Airlines Flight 93 who helped resist the hijackers and caused the plane to crash.

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 “True American Heroes
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDALS FOR GOVERNMENT**
7 **WORKERS WHO RESPONDED TO THE AT-**
8 **TACKS ON THE WORLD TRADE CENTER AND**
9 **PERISHED.**

10 (a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—In recognition of
11 the bravery and self-sacrifice of officers, emergency work-
12 ers, and other employees of State and local government
13 agencies, including the Port Authority of New York and
14 New Jersey, and of the United States Government, who
15 responded to the attacks on the World Trade Center in
16 New York City, and perished in the tragic events of Sep-
17 tember 11, 2001 (including those who are missing and
18 presumed dead), the President is authorized to present,
19 on behalf of the Congress, a gold medal of appropriate
20 design for each such officer, emergency worker, or em-
21 ployee to the next of kin or other representative of each
22 such officer, emergency worker, or employee.

23 (b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For purposes of the
24 presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary
25 of the Treasury shall strike gold medals with suitable em-

1 blems, devices, and inscriptions to be determined by the
2 Secretary to be emblematic of the valor and heroism of
3 the men and women honored.

4 (c) DETERMINATION OF RECIPIENTS.—The Sec-
5 retary of the Treasury shall determine the number of med-
6 als to be presented under this section and the appropriate
7 recipients of the medals after consulting with appropriate
8 representatives of Federal, State, and local officers and
9 agencies and the Port Authority of New York and New
10 Jersey.

11 (d) PRESENTMENT CEREMONY.—The President shall
12 consult with the Speaker of the House of Representatives,
13 the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the majority
14 leader and the minority leader of the House of Represent-
15 atives, and the majority leader and the minority leader of
16 the Senate with regard to the ceremony for presenting the
17 gold medals under subsection (a).

18 (e) DUPLICATIVE GOLD MEDALS FOR DEPART-
19 MENTS AND DUTY STATIONS.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treas-
21 ury shall strike duplicates in gold of the gold medals
22 struck pursuant to subsection (a) for presentation to
23 each of the following:

24 (A) The Governor of the State of New
25 York.

1 (B) The Mayor of the City of New York.

2 (C) The Commissioner of the New York
3 Police Department, the Commissioner of the
4 New York Fire Department, the head of emer-
5 gency medical services for the City of New
6 York, and the Chairman of the Board of Direc-
7 tors of the Port Authority of New York and
8 New Jersey.

9 (D) Each precinct house, fire house, emer-
10 gency response station, or other duty station or
11 place of employment to which each person re-
12 ferred to in subsection (a) was assigned on Sep-
13 tember 11, 2001, for display in each such place
14 in a manner befitting the memory of such per-
15 sons.

16 (f) DETERMINATION OF RECIPIENTS.—The Sec-
17 retary of the Treasury shall determine the number of med-
18 als to be presented under subsection (e) and the appro-
19 priate recipients of the medals after consulting with appro-
20 priate representatives of Federal, State, and local officers
21 and agencies and the Port Authority of New York and
22 New Jersey.

23 (g) DUPLICATE BRONZE MEDALS.—The Secretary of
24 the Treasury may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of
25 the gold medal struck pursuant to subsection (a) under

1 such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, at a price
2 of \$50 per medal.

3 (h) PROCEEDS OF SALE.—Amounts received from
4 the sales of duplicate bronze medals under subsection (g)
5 shall be deposited in a fund to be used to erect a memorial
6 for the fallen emergency responders.

7 (i) USE OF THE UNITED STATES MINT AT WEST
8 POINT, NEW YORK.—It is the sense of the Congress that
9 the medals authorized under this section should—

10 (1) be designed, struck, and presented not more
11 than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this
12 Act; and

13 (2) be struck at the United States Mint at West
14 Point, New York, to the greatest extent possible.

15 **SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDALS FOR PEOPLE**
16 **ABOARD UNITED AIRLINES FLIGHT 93 WHO**
17 **HELPED RESIST THE HIJACKERS AND**
18 **CAUSED THE PLANE TO CRASH.**

19 (a) CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS.—The Congress finds
20 as follows:

21 (1) On September 11, 2001, United Airlines
22 Flight 93, piloted by Captain James Dahl, departed
23 from Newark International Airport at 8:01 a.m. on
24 its scheduled route to San Francisco, California,
25 with 7 crew members and 38 passengers on board.

1 (2) Shortly after departure, United Airlines
2 Flight 93 was hijacked by terrorists.

3 (3) At 10:37 a.m. United Airlines Flight 93
4 crashed near Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

5 (4) Evidence indicates that people aboard
6 United Airlines Flight 93 learned that other hi-
7 jacked planes had been used to attack the World
8 Trade Center in New York City and resisted the ac-
9 tions of the hijackers on board.

10 (5) The effort to resist the hijackers aboard
11 United Airlines Flight 93 appears to have caused
12 the plane to crash prematurely, potentially saving
13 hundreds or thousands of lives and preventing the
14 destruction of the White House, the Capitol, or an-
15 other important symbol of freedom and democracy.

16 (6) The leaders of the resistance aboard United
17 Airlines Flight 93 demonstrated exceptional bravery,
18 valor, and patriotism, and are worthy of the appre-
19 ciation of the people of the United States.

20 (b) PRESENTATION OF CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MED-
21 ALS AUTHORIZED.—The President is authorized to award
22 posthumously, on behalf of Congress and in recognition
23 of heroic service to the Nation, gold medals of appropriate
24 design to any passengers or crew members on board
25 United Airlines Flight 93 who are identified by the Attor-

1 ney General as having aided in the effort to resist the hi-
2 jackers on board the plane.

3 (c) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purpose of the
4 presentation referred to in subsection (b), the Secretary
5 of the Treasury shall strike gold medals of a single design
6 with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be de-
7 termined by the Secretary.

8 (d) DUPLICATE MEDALS.—Under such regulations
9 as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe, the Sec-
10 retary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold
11 medals struck under subsection (b) at a price sufficient
12 to cover the cost of the bronze medals (including labor,
13 materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses)
14 and the cost of the gold medals.

15 **SEC. 4. NATIONAL MEDALS.**

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

Passed the House of Representatives December 18,
2001.

Attest:

JEFF TRANDAHL,

Clerk.