

Union Calendar No. 331

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 3916

[Report No. 108–568]

To improve circulation of the \$1 coin, create a new bullion coin, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 9, 2004

Mr. CASTLE (for himself and Mrs. MALONEY) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

JUNE 24, 2004

Additional sponsors: Mr. PITTS, Mr. BEREUTER, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. GILLMOR,
Mr. ENGLISH, Mr. LEACH, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. HOUGHTON, and Ms. PELOSI

JUNE 24, 2004

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole
House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italie*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on March 9, 2004]

A BILL

To improve circulation of the \$1 coin, create a new bullion
coin, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 *This Act may be cited as the “Presidential \$1 Coin*
3 *Act of 2004” .*

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 *The Congress finds as follows:*

6 *(1) There are sectors of the United States econ-*
7 *omy, including public transportation, parking meters,*
8 *vending machines and low-dollar value transactions,*
9 *in which the use of a \$1 coin is both useful and desir-*
10 *able for keeping costs and prices down.*

11 *(2) For a variety of reasons, the new \$1 coin in-*
12 *troduced in 2000 has not been widely sought-after by*
13 *the public, leading to higher costs for merchants and*
14 *thus higher prices for consumers.*

15 *(3) The success of the 50 States Commemorative*
16 *Coin Program for circulating quarter dollars shows*
17 *that a rotating design on a United States circulating*
18 *coin radically increases demand for the coin, rapidly*
19 *pulling it through the economy.*

20 *(4) The 50 States Commemorative Coin Program*
21 *also has been an educational tool, teaching both*
22 *Americans and visitors something about each State*
23 *for which a quarter has been issued.*

24 *(5) A national survey and study by the General*
25 *Accounting Office has indicated that many Ameri-*
26 *cans who do not seek, or who reject, the new \$1 coin*

1 *for use in commerce would actively seek the coin if an*
2 *attractive, educational rotating design were to be*
3 *struck on the coin.*

4 *(6) The President is the leader of our tripartite*
5 *government and the President's spouse has often set*
6 *the social tone for the White House while spear-*
7 *heading and highlighting important issues for the*
8 *country.*

9 *(7) Many people cannot name all of the Presi-*
10 *dents, and fewer can name the spouses, nor can many*
11 *people accurately place each President in the proper*
12 *time period of American history.*

13 *(8) First Spouses have not generally been recog-*
14 *nized on American coinage.*

15 *(9) Sacagewea, as currently represented on the*
16 *new \$1 coin, is an important symbol of American*
17 *history.*

18 *(10) In order to revitalize the design of United*
19 *States coinage and return circulating coinage to its*
20 *position as not only a necessary means of exchange*
21 *in commerce but also as an object of aesthetic beauty*
22 *in its own right, it is appropriate to move many of*
23 *the mottos and emblems, the inscription of the year,*
24 *and the so-called "mint marks" that currently appear*
25 *on the 2 faces of each circulating coin to the edge of*

1 *the coin, which would allow larger and more dra-*
2 *matic artwork on the coins reminiscent of the so-*
3 *called “Golden Age of Coinage” in the United States,*
4 *at the beginning of the Twentieth Century, initiated*
5 *by President Theodore Roosevelt, with the assistance*
6 *of noted sculptors and medallist artists James Earle*
7 *Fraser and Augustus St. Gaudens.*

8 *(11) Placing inscriptions on the edge of coins,*
9 *known as edge-incusing, is a hallmark of modern*
10 *coinage and is common in large-volume production of*
11 *coinage elsewhere in the world, such as the*
12 *2,700,000,000 2-Euro coins in circulation and coins*
13 *of the People’s Republic of China, but it has not been*
14 *done on a large scale in United States coinage in re-*
15 *cent years.*

16 *(12) Bullion coins are a valuable tool for the in-*
17 *vestor and, in some cases, an important aspect of coin*
18 *collecting.*

19 *(13) Although the Congress has authorized the*
20 *Secretary of the Treasury to issue gold coins with a*
21 *purity of 99.99 percent, the Secretary has not done so.*

22 *(14) By commencing the issuance of the presi-*
23 *dential \$1 coins in 2006, coins issued in uncirculated*
24 *or proof qualities that commemorate the presidency of*
25 *Thomas Jefferson may appropriately be sold in sets*

1 *with the coins of similar qualities that are issued in*
 2 *2006 and commemorate the Lewis and Clark expedi-*
 3 *tion, together with \$1 coins that bear the image of*
 4 *Sacagewea and are struck for numismatic purposes*
 5 *under section 5112(n)(1)(B) of title 31, United States*
 6 *Code (as amended by section 3 of this Act).*

7 **SEC. 3. PRESIDENTIAL \$1 COIN PROGRAM.**

8 *Section 5112 of title 31, United States Code, is amend-*
 9 *ed by inserting after subsection (m) the following new sub-*
 10 *section:*

11 “(n) *REDESIGN AND ISSUANCE OF CIRCULATING \$1*
 12 *COINS HONORING EACH OF THE PRESIDENTS OF THE*
 13 *UNITED STATES.—*

14 “(1) *REDESIGN BEGINNING IN 2006.—*

15 “(A) *IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding sub-*
 16 *section (d) and in accordance with the provisions*
 17 *of this subsection, \$1 coins issued during the pe-*
 18 *riod beginning January 1, 2006, and ending*
 19 *upon the termination of the program under*
 20 *paragraph (6) shall have designs on the obverse*
 21 *selected in accordance with paragraph (2)(B)*
 22 *which are emblematic of the Presidents of the*
 23 *United States and a design on the reverse se-*
 24 *lected in accordance with paragraph (2)(A).*

1 “(B) *TRANSITION PROVISION.*—*Notwith-*
 2 *standing subparagraph (A), the Secretary may*
 3 *continue to mint and issue \$1 coins in 2006*
 4 *which bear the design in effect before the redesign*
 5 *required under this subsection, as required for*
 6 *numismatic purposes and to ensure a smooth*
 7 *transition into the presidential coin program*
 8 *under this subsection.*

9 “(2) *DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.*—*The \$1 coins*
 10 *issued in accordance with paragraph (1)(A) shall*
 11 *meet the following design requirements:*

12 “(A) *COIN REVERSE.*—*The design on the re-*
 13 *verse shall bear—*

14 “(i) *a likeness of the Statue of Liberty*
 15 *extending to the rim of the coin and large*
 16 *enough to provide a dramatic representa-*
 17 *tion of Liberty while not being large enough*
 18 *to create the impression of a ‘2-headed’ coin;*

19 “(ii) *the inscription ‘\$1’ ; and*

20 “(iii) *the inscription ‘United States of*
 21 *America’.*

22 “(B) *COIN OBVERSE.*—*The design on the ob-*
 23 *verse shall contain the name and likeness of a*
 24 *President of the United States and basic infor-*
 25 *mation about the President, including the dates*

1 *or years of the term of office of such President*
 2 *and a number indicating the order of the period*
 3 *of service in which the President served.*

4 “(C) *EDGE-INCUSED INSCRIPTIONS.*—*The*
 5 *inscription of the year of minting or issuance of*
 6 *the coin and the inscriptions ‘E Pluribus Unum’*
 7 *and ‘In God We Trust’ shall be edge-incused into*
 8 *the coin.*

9 “(D) *INSCRIPTIONS OF ‘LIBERTY’.*—*Not-*
 10 *withstanding the 2d sentence of subsection (d)(1),*
 11 *because the use of a design bearing the likeness*
 12 *of the Statue of Liberty on the reverse of the*
 13 *coins issued under this subsection adequately*
 14 *conveys the concept of Liberty, the inscription of*
 15 *‘Liberty’ shall not appear on the coins.*

16 “(E) *PROHIBITION ON SITTING PRESIDENT*
 17 *IN SERIES.*—*No coin issued under this subsection*
 18 *may bear the image of a President who has not*
 19 *completed such President’s period of service.*

20 “(3) *ISSUANCE OF COINS COMMEMORATING*
 21 *PRESIDENTS.*—

22 “(A) *ORDER OF ISSUANCE.*—*The coins*
 23 *issued under this subsection commemorating*
 24 *Presidents of the United States shall be issued in*
 25 *the order of the period of service of each Presi-*

1 *dent, beginning with President George Wash-*
 2 *ington.*

3 “(B) *TREATMENT OF PERIOD OF SERV-*
 4 *ICE.—*

5 “(i) *IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause*
 6 *(ii), only 1 coin design shall be issued for*
 7 *a period of service for any President, no*
 8 *matter how many consecutive terms of office*
 9 *the President served.*

10 “(ii) *NONCONSECUTIVE TERMS.—If a*
 11 *President has served during 2 or more non-*
 12 *consecutive periods of service, a coin shall*
 13 *be issued under this subsection for each such*
 14 *nonconsecutive period of service.*

15 “(4) *ISSUANCE OF COINS COMMEMORATING 4*
 16 *PRESIDENTS DURING EACH YEAR OF THE PERIOD.—*

17 “(A) *IN GENERAL.—The designs for the \$1*
 18 *coins issued during each year of the period re-*
 19 *ferred to in paragraph (1) shall be emblematic of*
 20 *4 Presidents until the year the program termi-*
 21 *nates.*

22 “(B) *NUMBER OF EACH OF 4 CIRCULATING*
 23 *COIN DESIGNS IN EACH YEAR.—The Secretary*
 24 *shall prescribe, on the basis of such factors as the*
 25 *Secretary determines to be appropriate, the num-*

1 *ber of \$1 coins that shall be issued with each of*
 2 *the designs selected for each year of the period re-*
 3 *ferred to in paragraph (1).*

4 “(5) *ISSUANCE OF NUMISMATIC COINS.*—*The Sec-*
 5 *retary may mint and issue such number of \$1 coins*
 6 *of each design selected under this subsection in uncir-*
 7 *culated and proof qualities as the Secretary deter-*
 8 *mines to be appropriate.*

9 “(6) *TERMINATION OF PROGRAM.*—*The issuance*
 10 *of coins under this subsection shall terminate when*
 11 *each President who has finished such President’s pe-*
 12 *riod of service has been so honored and may not be*
 13 *resumed except by an Act of Congress.*

14 “(7) *REVERSION TO PRECEDING DESIGN.*—*Upon*
 15 *the termination of the issuance of coins under this*
 16 *subsection, the design of the \$1 coin shall revert to the*
 17 *design on \$1 coins being issued immediately before*
 18 *the issuance of coins under this subsection.”.*

19 **SEC. 4. FIRST SPOUSE BULLION COIN PROGRAM.**

20 *Section 5112 of title 31, United States Code, is amend-*
 21 *ed by inserting after subsection (n) (as added by section*
 22 *3 of this Act) the following new subsection:*

23 “(o) *FIRST SPOUSE BULLION COIN PROGRAM.*—

24 “(1) *IN GENERAL.*—*During the same period in*
 25 *which the \$1 coins are issued under subsection (n)*

1 *which are emblematic of the Presidents of the United*
 2 *States, the Secretary of the Treasury shall issue bullion*
 3 *coins under this subsection that are emblematic of the*
 4 *spouse of each such President.*

5 “(2) *SPECIFICATIONS.—The coins issued under*
 6 *this subsection shall—*

7 “(A) *have the same diameter as the \$1 coins*
 8 *described in subsection (n);*

9 “(B) *weigh 0.5 ounce; and*

10 “(C) *contain 99.99 percent pure gold.*

11 “(3) *DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—*

12 “(A) *COIN OBVERSE.—The design on the ob-*
 13 *verse of each coin issued under this subsection*
 14 *shall contain—*

15 “(i) *the name and likeness of a person*
 16 *who was a spouse of a President during the*
 17 *President’s period of service;*

18 “(ii) *an inscription of the years during*
 19 *which such person was the spouse of a*
 20 *President during the President’s period of*
 21 *service; and*

22 “(iii) *the number indicating the order*
 23 *of the period of service in which such Presi-*
 24 *dent served.*

1 “(B) *COIN REVERSE.*—*The design on the re-*
2 *verse of each coin issued under this subsection*
3 *shall bear—*

4 “(i) *images emblematic of the life and*
5 *work of the First Spouse whose image is*
6 *borne on the obverse; and*

7 “(ii) *the inscription ‘United States of*
8 *America’.*

9 “(C) *DESIGNATED DENOMINATION.*—*Each*
10 *coin issued under this subsection shall bear, on*
11 *the reverse, an inscription of the nominal de-*
12 *nomination of the coin which shall be ‘\$10’.*

13 “(D) *DESIGN IN CASE OF NO FIRST*
14 *SPOUSE.*—*In the case of any President who*
15 *served without a spouse—*

16 “(i) *the image on the obverse of the*
17 *bullion coin corresponding to the \$1 coin re-*
18 *lating to such President shall be an image*
19 *emblematic of the concept of ‘Liberty’—*

20 “(I) *as represented on a United*
21 *States coin issued during the period of*
22 *service of such President; or*

23 “(II) *as represented, in the case of*
24 *President Chester Alan Arthur, by a*
25 *design incorporating the name and*

1 *likeness of Alice Paul, a leading strate-*
2 *gist in the suffrage movement, who was*
3 *instrumental in gaining women the*
4 *right to vote upon the adoption of the*
5 *19th amendment and thus participate*
6 *in the election of future Presidents,*
7 *and who was born on January 11,*
8 *1885, during the term of President Ar-*
9 *thur; and*

10 *“(ii) the reverse of such bullion coin*
11 *shall be of a design representative of themes*
12 *of such President, except that in the case of*
13 *the bullion coin referred to in clause (i)(II)*
14 *the reverse of such coin shall be representa-*
15 *tive of the suffrage movement.*

16 *“(E) DESIGN AND COIN FOR EACH*
17 *SPOUSE.—A separate coin shall be designed and*
18 *issued under this section for each person who*
19 *was the spouse of a President during any por-*
20 *tion of a term of office of such President.*

21 *“(F) INSCRIPTIONS.—Each bullion coin*
22 *issued under this subsection shall bear the in-*
23 *scription of the year of minting or issuance of*
24 *the coin and such other inscriptions as the Sec-*
25 *retary may determine to be appropriate.*

1 “(4) *SALE OF BULLION COINS.*—*Each bullion*
 2 *coin issued under this subsection shall be sold for an*
 3 *amount the Secretary of the Treasury determines to*
 4 *be appropriate that is equal to or greater than the*
 5 *sum of—*

6 “(A) *the face value of the coins; and*

7 “(B) *the cost of designing and issuing the*
 8 *coins (including labor, materials, dies, use of*
 9 *machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and*
 10 *shipping).*

11 “(5) *ISSUANCE OF COINS COMMEMORATING FIRST*
 12 *SPOUSES.*—

13 “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*The bullion coins*
 14 *issued under this subsection with respect to any*
 15 *spouse of a President shall be issued on the same*
 16 *schedule as the \$1 coin issued under subsection*
 17 *(n) with respect to such President.*

18 “(B) *MAXIMUM NUMBER OF BULLION COINS*
 19 *FOR EACH DESIGN.*—*The Secretary shall—*

20 “(i) *prescribe, on the basis of such fac-*
 21 *tors as the Secretary determines to be ap-*
 22 *propriate, the maximum number of bullion*
 23 *coins that shall be issued with each of the*
 24 *designs selected under this subsection; and*

1 “(ii) announce, before the issuance of
2 the bullion coins of each such design, the
3 maximum number of bullions coins of that
4 design that will be issued.

5 “(C) *TERMINATION OF PROGRAM.*—No bul-
6 lion coin may be issued under this subsection
7 after the design on the \$1 coin reverts, in accord-
8 ance with subsection (n)(7), to the design on \$1
9 coins being issued immediately before the
10 issuance of coins under subsection (n).

11 “(6) *QUALITY OF COINS.*—The bullion coins shall
12 be issued in both proof and uncirculated qualities.

13 “(7) *SOURCE OF GOLD BULLION.*—The Secretary
14 shall acquire gold for the coins issued under this sub-
15 section by purchase of gold mined from natural de-
16 posits in the United States, or in a territory or pos-
17 session of the United States, within 1 year after the
18 month in which the ore from which it is derived was
19 mined. The Secretary shall pay not more than the av-
20 erage world price for the gold.

21 “(8) *BRONZE MEDALS.*—The Secretary may
22 strike and sell bronze medals that bear the likeness of
23 the bullion coins authorized under this subsection, at
24 a price, size, and weight, and with such inscriptions,
25 as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.”.

1 **SEC. 5. SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.**

2 *It is the sense of the Congress that—*

3 *(1) the American tradition of not issuing a coin*
4 *with the image of a living person has served the coun-*
5 *try well and deserves to be continued as a general*
6 *practice;*

7 *(2) the full circulation potential and cost-savings*
8 *benefit projections for the presidential \$1 coin pro-*
9 *gram are not likely to be achieved unless the coins are*
10 *delivered in ways useful to ordinary commerce;*

11 *(3) in order for the Presidential \$1 Coin Pro-*
12 *gram to achieve maximum success—*

13 *(A) the coin should be as attractive as pos-*
14 *sible; and*

15 *(B) the Director of the United States Mint*
16 *should take all reasonable steps to ensure that the*
17 *coins described in section 5112(n) of title 31,*
18 *United States Code, remain tarnish-free for as*
19 *long as possible without incurring undue ex-*
20 *pense;*

21 *(4) if the Secretary of the Treasury determines*
22 *to include on any \$1 coin minted under section*
23 *5112(n) of title 31, United States Code (as added by*
24 *section 3 of this Act) a mark denoting the United*
25 *States Mint facility at which the coin was struck,*
26 *such mark should be edge-incused;*

1 (5) *at such time as the Board of Governors of the*
2 *Federal Reserve System determines to be appropriate,*
3 *after consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury*
4 *and the submission of notice to the Congress, the*
5 *Board should separate and sequester, and not put*
6 *back into circulation, any \$1 coin that comes into the*
7 *possession of the Board or any Federal reserve bank*
8 *and does not bear—*

9 *(A) a design specified under section 5112(n)*
10 *of title 31, United States Code; or*

11 *(B) the design referred to in paragraph (7)*
12 *of such section;*

13 (6) *in connection with the introduction of the \$1*
14 *coins under the presidential \$1 coin program—*

15 *(A) the coins should not be introduced with*
16 *an overly expensive taxpayer-funded public rela-*
17 *tions campaign; and*

18 *(B) the Director of the United States Mint,*
19 *a bureau in the Department of the Treasury,*
20 *should work with consumer groups, media out-*
21 *lets, and schools to ensure an adequate amount*
22 *of news coverage about the start of the coin pro-*
23 *gram so consumers will know of the availability*
24 *of the coins;*

1 (7) *the Board of Governors of the Federal Re-*
2 *serve System and the Secretary of the Treasury*
3 *should take steps to ensure that an adequate supply*
4 *of \$1 coins are available for commerce and collectors*
5 *at such places and in such quantities as are appro-*
6 *priate by—*

7 (A) *meeting, at least monthly on a regular*
8 *basis, with a coin users group that includes rep-*
9 *resentatives of merchants who would benefit from*
10 *the increased usage of \$1 coins, vending machine*
11 *and other coin acceptor manufacturers, vending*
12 *machine owners and operators, transit officials,*
13 *municipal parking officials, depository institu-*
14 *tions, coin and currency handlers, armored-car*
15 *operators, and coin collectors and dealers to ac-*
16 *curately gauge demand for coins and to antici-*
17 *pate and eliminate obstacles to the easy and effi-*
18 *cient distribution and circulation of coins issued*
19 *under the Presidential \$1 Coin Program as well*
20 *as all other circulating coins;*

21 (B) *submitting a semiannual report to the*
22 *Congress containing an assessment of the re-*
23 *maining obstacles to the efficient and timely cir-*
24 *culation of coins, and particularly coins issued*
25 *under the Presidential \$1 Coin Program, to-*

1 *gether with such recommendations for legislative*
2 *action the Board and the Secretary may deter-*
3 *mine to be appropriate;*

4 *(C) ensuring that as many vending ma-*
5 *chines and other automated coin-accepting de-*
6 *vices in the United States as possible accept*
7 *coins issued under the Presidential \$1 Coin Pro-*
8 *gram and carry notices of such acceptability;*
9 *and*

10 *(D) ensuring that—*

11 *(i) all institutions that want unmixed*
12 *supplies of each newly-issued design of \$1*
13 *coins under the Presidential \$1 Coin Pro-*
14 *gram are able to obtain such unmixed sup-*
15 *plies; and*

16 *(ii) circulating coins will be available*
17 *for ordinary commerce in packaging of sizes*
18 *and types appropriate for and useful to or-*
19 *dinary commerce, including rolled coins;*
20 *and*

21 *(8) the Director of the United States Mint should*
22 *take all steps necessary to expand the marketplace for*
23 *bullion coins, and reduce barriers to the sale of bul-*
24 *lion coins, by ensuring that—*

1 (A) *the greatest number possible of rep-*
2 *utable, reliable, and responsible dealers are*
3 *qualified to offer for sale all bullion coins struck*
4 *and issued by the United States Mint; and*

5 (B) *all such dealers and their customers*
6 *have equal and timely access to all new issues of*
7 *such bullion coins.*

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