

108TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 2641

To recognize conservation efforts to restore the American bison from extinction by placing the image of the American bison on the nickel, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 13, 2004

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

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## A BILL

To recognize conservation efforts to restore the American bison from extinction by placing the image of the American bison on the nickel, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Bison Nickel Restora-  
5 tion Act of 2004”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

1           (1) the American bison is one of the most en-  
2           during symbols of the expedition of Meriwether  
3           Lewis and William Clark;

4           (2) Native Americans in the Great Plains  
5           States have held the American bison as one of the  
6           most sacred animals, as it represents a spiritual  
7           being supplying everything necessary to survive;

8           (3) the American bison continues to be a sym-  
9           bol of Western States and the growth of the United  
10          States westward in the 19th century;

11          (4) the population of the American bison herd  
12          has been restored from near extinction levels due to  
13          exceptional conservation efforts;

14          (5) the American bison herd, which once num-  
15          bered approximately 60,000,000 fell below 100 for  
16          free-range bison in the early 1900s;

17          (6) at the time, only 21 American bison were  
18          living in Yellowstone National Park, and 8 in the  
19          National Zoo in Washington, DC;

20          (7) the conservation efforts to restore the  
21          American bison officially began with the efforts of  
22          President Theodore Roosevelt with the American  
23          Bison Society in 1905, the first United States con-  
24          servation effort to restore a single species from ex-  
25          tinction;

1           (8) the centennial of the signing into law by  
2       President Roosevelt of the creation of the National  
3       Bison Range in Montana will take place on May 23,  
4       2008; and

5           (9) in 2004, the bison herd in North America  
6       is anticipated to surpass 500,000, and the American  
7       Bison has been restored and has become a viable  
8       commercial ranching enterprise for many small- and  
9       medium-sized ranchers.

10 **SEC. 3. BISON COIN AUTHORITY EXTENSION.**

11       Section 101 of the American 5-Cent Coin Design  
12       Continuity Act of 2003 (31 U.S.C. note) is amended—

13           (1) by striking “and 2005” each place that  
14       term appears, other than in subsection (b)(2), and  
15       inserting “, 2005, and 2006”; and

16           (2) in subsection (b)(2), by adding at the end  
17       the following: “If the Secretary of the Treasury  
18       elects to change the reverse of the 5-cent coins  
19       issued during 2006, one of the designs selected shall  
20       depict the image of an American bison as part of  
21       such emblematic images.”.

1 **SEC. 4. EXTENSION OF THE AMERICAN 5-CENT COIN DE-**  
2 **SIGN CONTINUITY ACT OF 2003.**

3       Section 5112(d)(1) of title 31, United States Code,  
4 is amended in the 5th sentence, by striking “December  
5 31, 2005” and inserting “December 31, 2006”.

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