

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3466

To authorize the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate to make appropriate arrangements for the presentation, on behalf of Congress, of gold medals to the Meskwaki Code Talkers in recognition of their contributions to the Nation during World War II, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 27, 2005

Mr. BOSWELL introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To authorize the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate to make appropriate arrangements for the presentation, on behalf of Congress, of gold medals to the Meskwaki Code Talkers in recognition of their contributions to the Nation during World War II, 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 “Meskwaki Code Talk-
5 ers Recognition Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) During World War II, 8 members of the
4 Meskwaki tribe of Tama County, Iowa, used their
5 native language as code to transmit vital information
6 to the United States Armed Forces regarding enemy
7 actions, locations, troops, and ammunition.

8 (2) These Meskwaki tribe members, known as
9 the Meskwaki Code Talkers, worked under chal-
10 lenging conditions in North Africa, taking extreme
11 risks to provide critical information to the United
12 States Armed Forces.

13 (3) The enemy was never able to translate the
14 native Meskwaki language, and the Meskwaki Code
15 Talkers, among other Code Talkers, are credited
16 with saving the lives of countless members of the
17 United States Armed Forces and contributing sig-
18 nificantly to the victory of the United States and its
19 allies.

20 **SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.**

21 (a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of
22 the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tem-
23 pore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements
24 for the presentation, on behalf of Congress, of gold medals
25 of appropriate design to each of the 8 Meskwaki Code
26 Talkers, including—

- 1 (1) Edward Benson;
- 2 (2) Dewey Roberts;
- 3 (3) Frank Sanache;
- 4 (4) Willard Sanache;
- 5 (5) Melvin Twin;
- 6 (6) Judy Wayne Wabaunasee;
- 7 (7) Mike Wayne Wabaunasee; and
- 8 (8) Dewey Youngbear.

9 (b) ADDITIONAL MEDALS.—The Speaker of the
10 House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore
11 of the Senate may make appropriate arrangements for the
12 presentation of additional medals to other individuals not
13 designated in subsection (a) who also served as Meskwaki
14 Code Talkers during World War II.

15 (c) MEDALS AWARDED POSTHUMOUSLY.—The med-
16 als authorized by this Act may be awarded posthumously
17 to a surviving family member of the individuals designated
18 in subsection (a) and referred to in subsection (b).

19 (d) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purpose of the
20 presentation referred to in this section, the Secretary of
21 the Treasury shall strike a gold medal with suitable em-
22 blems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the
23 Secretary.

1 **SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

2 The Secretary of the Treasury may strike and sell
3 duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant
4 to section 3 under such regulations as the Secretary may
5 prescribe, and at a price sufficient to cover the costs of
6 the duplicate medals and the gold medal (including labor,
7 materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses).

8 **SEC. 5. NATIONAL MEDALS.**

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

11 **SEC. 6. FUNDING.**

12 (a) **AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.**—There is
13 authorized to be charged against the United States Mint
14 Public Enterprise Fund an amount not to exceed \$30,000
15 to pay for the costs of the medals authorized by this Act.

16 (b) **PROCEEDS OF SALE.**—Amounts received from the
17 sale of duplicate bronze medals under section 4 shall be
18 deposited in the United States Mint Public Enterprise
19 Fund.

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