

109TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1174

To authorize the President to posthumously award a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Robert M. La Follette, Sr., in recognition of his important contributions to the Progressive movement, the State of Wisconsin, and the United States.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 7, 2005

Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself and Mr. KOHL) 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 authorize the President to posthumously award a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Robert M. La Follette, Sr., in recognition of his important contributions to the Progressive movement, the State of Wisconsin, and the United States.

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. FINDINGS.**

4       Congress makes the following findings:

5           (1) Robert M. La Follette, Sr., better known as  
6           “Fighting Bob” La Follette, was born 150 years  
7           ago, on June 14, 1855, in Primrose, Wisconsin.

5 (3) Fighting Bob founded the Progressive wing  
6 of the Republican Party.

16 (6) Fighting Bob was a principal advocate for  
17 the Seventeenth Amendment to the Constitution of  
18 the United States, which calls for the election of  
19 United States Senators by popular vote.

20 (7) Fighting Bob delivered an historic speech,  
21 “Free Speech in Wartime”, opposing the public per-  
22 secution of those who sought to hold their Govern-  
23 ment accountable.

24 (8) Fighting Bob played a key role in exposing  
25 the corruption during the Teapot Dome Scandal.

5 (10) Fighting Bob ran for the presidency on  
6 the Progressive ticket in 1924, winning more than  
7 17 percent of the popular vote.

16 (12) Fighting Bob was honored in 1929 with 1  
17 of 2 statues representing the State of Wisconsin in  
18 National Statuary Hall in the United States Capitol.

19 (13) Fighting Bob was chosen as 1 of "Five  
20 Outstanding Senators" by the Special Committee on  
21 the Senate Reception Room in 1957.

22 (14) A portrait of Fighting Bob was unveiled in  
23 the Senate Reception Room in March 1959.

24 (15) Fighting Bob was revered by his sup-  
25 porters for his unwavering support of his ideals, and

1 for his tenacious pursuit of a more just and account-  
2 able Government.

3 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.**

4 (a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The President is  
5 authorized, on behalf of the Congress, to posthumously  
6 award a gold medal of appropriate design to Robert M.  
7 La Follette, Sr., in recognition of his important contribu-  
8 tions to the Progressive movement, the State of Wisconsin,  
9 and the United States.

10 (b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purpose of the  
11 presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary  
12 of the Treasury (in this Act referred to as the “Sec-  
13 retary”) shall strike a gold medal with suitable emblems,  
14 devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Sec-  
15 retary.

16 **SEC. 3. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

17 Under such regulations as the Secretary may pre-  
18 scribe, the Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in  
19 bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to section 2 at  
20 a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor,  
21 materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses,  
22 and the cost of the gold medal.

23 **SEC. 4. STATUS AS NATIONAL MEDALS.**

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

1 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
3 authorized to be charged against the United States Mint  
4 Public Enterprise Fund such sum as may be appropriate  
5 to pay for the cost of the medals authorized under this  
6 Act.

7 (b) PROCEEDS OF SALE.—Amounts received from the  
8 sale of duplicate bronze medals under section 3 shall be  
9 deposited in the United States Mint Public Enterprise  
10 Fund.

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