

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 2140

To award a Congressional Gold Medal to Francis Collins, in recognition of his outstanding contributions and leadership in the fields of medicine and genetics.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 4, 2007

Mr. DORGAN (for himself and Mr. ENZI) 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 award a Congressional Gold Medal to Francis Collins, in recognition of his outstanding contributions and leadership in the fields of medicine and genetics.

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 finds that—

5 (1) Francis Collins, who was raised on a small  
6 farm in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley, decided to  
7 pursue a career in chemistry when he was a high  
8 school student;

1           (2) in the 1970s, after studying DNA and  
2           RNA, Francis Collins recognized that a revolution  
3           was on the horizon and decided to study medicine  
4           and genetics;

5           (3) Francis Collins received a Ph.D. in Physical  
6           Chemistry from Yale University in 1974, and an  
7           M.D. from the University of North Carolina in  
8           1977;

9           (4) after a fellowship in genetics at Yale Uni-  
10          versity, Francis Collins joined the faculty at the  
11          University of Michigan and discovered a new method  
12          to identify abnormal genes;

13          (5) Francis Collins' work led to major advances  
14          in modern medicine, including the identification of  
15          genes responsible for cystic fibrosis,  
16          neurofibromatosis, Huntington's disease, and  
17          Hutchison-Gilford progeria syndrome;

18          (6) in 1993, Francis Collins succeeded James  
19          Watson as Director of the National Center for  
20          Human Genome Research at the National Institutes  
21          of Health;

22          (7) as Director of the National Center for  
23          Human Genome Research, Francis Collins was  
24          charged with leading a 15-year effort to locate and

1 map every gene in the human DNA by 2005, and  
2 then determine aspects of its function;

3 (8) in June 2000, ahead of schedule and under  
4 budget, Francis Collins announced the completion of  
5 a first draft of the human genome;

6 (9) the sequencing of the human genome, which  
7 was completed in April 2003, is one of the most sig-  
8 nificant advances in modern science;

9 (10) Francis Collins remains committed to  
10 making the data from the human genome accessible  
11 to the worldwide scientific community, and has been  
12 a tireless champion of genetic information non-  
13 discrimination;

14 (11) Francis Collins remains at the forefront of  
15 understanding the connection between genes and dis-  
16 ease, which he believes will eventually lead to a new  
17 field of individualized, prevention-oriented medicine;  
18 and

19 (12) Francis Collins has received numerous  
20 awards and honors for his work and is a member of  
21 the Institute of Medicine and the National Academy  
22 of Sciences.

23 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.**

24 (a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The President  
25 Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House

1 of Representatives are authorized to make appropriate ar-  
 2 rangements for the presentation, on behalf of Congress,  
 3 of a gold medal of appropriate design to Francis Collins  
 4 for his outstanding contributions in the fields of medicine  
 5 and genetics.

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

12 **SEC. 3. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

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

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

20 (a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medals struck under  
 21 this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51  
 22 of title 31, United States Code.

23 (b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections  
 24 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all medals

1 struck pursuant to this Act shall be considered numis-  
2 matic items.

3 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS; PROCEEDS**  
4 **OF SALE.**

5 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
6 are authorized to be charged against the United States  
7 Mint Public Enterprise Fund, such sums as may be nec-  
8 essary to pay for the cost of the medals struck pursuant  
9 to this Act.

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

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