

110TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 3290

To provide for a program for circulating quarter dollar coins that are emblematic of a national park or other national site in each State, the District of Columbia, and certain territories and insular areas of the United States, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 21 (legislative day, JULY 17), 2008

Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON, 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 provide for a program for circulating quarter dollar coins that are emblematic of a national park or other national site in each State, the District of Columbia, and certain territories and insular areas of the United States, 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 “America’s Beautiful  
5       National Parks Quarter Dollar Coin Act of 2008”.

1                   **TITLE I—NATIONAL SITE**  
 2                   **QUARTER DOLLARS**

3 **SEC. 101. ISSUANCE OF REDESIGNED QUARTER DOLLARS**  
 4                   **EMBLEMATIC OF NATIONAL PARKS OR**  
 5                   **OTHER NATIONAL SITES.**

6           Section 5112 of title 31, United States Code, is  
 7 amended—

8                   (1) by redesignating subsection (r) (as added by  
 9                   section 622 of the Financial Services and General  
 10                   Government Appropriations Act, 2008 (Public Law  
 11                   110–161; 121 Stat. 2016)) as subsection (s); and

12                   (2) by adding at the end the following:

13                   “(t) REDESIGN AND ISSUANCE OF QUARTER DOL-  
 14 LARS EMBLEMATIC OF NATIONAL SITES.—

15                   “(1) REDESIGN BEGINNING UPON COMPLETION  
 16 OF PRIOR PROGRAM.—

17                   “(A) DEFINITION OF STATE.—For pur-  
 18                   poses of this subsection, the term ‘State’ means  
 19                   each of the several States of the United States,  
 20                   the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of  
 21                   Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the Com-  
 22                   monwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands,  
 23                   and the United States Virgin Islands.

24                   “(B) REDESIGN.—Notwithstanding the  
 25                   fourth sentence of subsection (d)(1) and sub-

1 section (d)(2), quarter dollars issued beginning  
2 in 2010 shall have designs on the reverse se-  
3 lected in accordance with this subsection which  
4 are emblematic of the national sites in the  
5 States.

6 “(C) FLEXIBILITY WITH REGARD TO  
7 PLACEMENT OF INSCRIPTIONS.—Notwith-  
8 standing subsection (d)(1), the Secretary may  
9 select a design for quarter dollars referred to in  
10 subparagraph (A) in which—

11 “(i) the inscription described in the  
12 second sentence of subsection (d)(1) ap-  
13 pears on the reverse side of any such quar-  
14 ter dollars; and

15 “(ii) any inscription described in the  
16 third sentence of subsection (d)(1) or the  
17 designation of the value of the coin ap-  
18 pears on the obverse side of any such quar-  
19 ter dollars.

20 “(2) SINGLE SITE IN EACH STATE.—The design  
21 on the reverse side of each quarter dollar issued dur-  
22 ing the period of issuance under this subsection shall  
23 be emblematic of 1 national site in each State.

24 “(3) SELECTION OF SITE AND DESIGN.—

1           “(A) SITE.—The selection of a national  
2 park or other national site in each State to be  
3 honored with a coin under this subsection shall  
4 be made by the Secretary of the Treasury, after  
5 consultation with the governor or other chief ex-  
6 ecutive of each State with respect to which a  
7 coin is to be issued under this subsection so  
8 that the national site chosen for each State  
9 shall be the most appropriate in terms of nat-  
10 ural or historic significance.

11           “(B) DESIGN.—Each of the designs re-  
12 quired under this subsection for quarter dollars  
13 shall be—

14                   “(i) selected by the Secretary after  
15 consultation with—

16                           “(I) the head of the agency hav-  
17 ing jurisdiction over the site selected  
18 in accordance with subparagraph (A);  
19 and

20                           “(II) the Commission of Fine  
21 Arts; and

22                   “(ii) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage  
23 Advisory Committee.

24           “(C) SELECTION AND APPROVAL PROC-  
25 ESS.—Recommendations for site selections and

1 designs for quarter dollars may be submitted in  
2 accordance with the site and design selection  
3 and approval process developed by the Sec-  
4 retary in the sole discretion of the Secretary.

5 “(D) PARTICIPATION IN DESIGN.—The  
6 Secretary may include participation by officials  
7 of the State, artists from the State, engravers  
8 of the United States Mint, and members of the  
9 general public.

10 “(E) STANDARDS.—Because it is impor-  
11 tant that the Nation’s coinage and currency  
12 bear dignified designs of which the citizens of  
13 the United States can be proud, the Secretary  
14 shall not select any frivolous or inappropriate  
15 design for any quarter dollar minted under this  
16 subsection.

17 “(F) PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN REP-  
18 RESENTATIONS.—No head and shoulders por-  
19 trait or bust of any person, living or dead, no  
20 portrait of a living person, and no outline or  
21 map of a State may be included in the design  
22 on the reverse of any quarter dollar under this  
23 subsection.

24 “(4) ISSUANCE OF COINS.—

1           “(A) YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK.—  
2           Since Yellowstone National Park was estab-  
3           lished by an Act signed by President Ulysses S.  
4           Grant on March 1, 1872, as the Nation’s first  
5           national park, Yellowstone National Park shall  
6           be—

7                   “(i) depicted on the first quarter dol-  
8                   lar issued; and

9                   “(ii) designated to the State of Wyo-  
10                  ming.

11           “(B) ORDER OF ISSUANCE.—Subject to  
12           subparagraph (A), the quarter dollar coins  
13           issued under this subsection bearing designs of  
14           national sites shall be issued in reverse alpha-  
15           betical order of each State.

16           “(C) RATE OF ISSUANCE.—The quarter  
17           dollar coins bearing designs of national sites  
18           under this subsection shall be issued at the rate  
19           of—

20                   “(i) 5 new designs during each of the  
21                   first 10 years of either—

22                           “(I) the original period of  
23                           issuance under this subsection; or

1                   “(II) the second round period of  
2                   issuance described in paragraph  
3                   (7)(B); and

4                   “(ii) 6 new designs during the 11th  
5                   year of either—

6                   “(I) the original period of  
7                   issuance under this subsection; or

8                   “(II) the second round period of  
9                   issuance described in paragraph  
10                  (7)(B).

11                  “(D) NUMBER OF EACH OF THE COIN DE-  
12                  SIGNS IN EACH YEAR.—Of the quarter dollar  
13                  coins issued during each year of the period of  
14                  issuance, the Secretary of the Treasury shall  
15                  prescribe, on the basis of such factors as the  
16                  Secretary determines to be appropriate, the  
17                  number of quarter dollars which shall be issued  
18                  with each of the designs selected for such year.

19                  “(5) TREATMENT AS NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For  
20                  purposes of sections 5134 and 5136, all coins mint-  
21                  ed under this subsection shall be considered to be  
22                  numismatic items.

23                  “(6) ISSUANCE.—

24                  “(A) QUALITY OF COINS.—The Secretary  
25                  may mint and issue such number of quarter

1 dollars of each design selected under paragraph  
2 (3) in uncirculated and proof qualities as the  
3 Secretary determines to be appropriate.

4 “(B) SILVER COINS.—Notwithstanding  
5 subsection (b), the Secretary may mint and  
6 issue such number of quarter dollars of each  
7 design selected under paragraph (3) as the Sec-  
8 retary determines to be appropriate, with a con-  
9 tent of 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

10 “(7) PERIOD OF ISSUANCE.—

11 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph  
12 (2), the program established under this sub-  
13 section shall continue in effect until a national  
14 site in each State has been honored.

15 “(B) SECOND ROUND AT DISCRETION OF  
16 SECRETARY.—

17 “(i) DETERMINATION.—The Secretary  
18 may make a determination before the end  
19 of the 9-year period beginning when the  
20 first quarter dollar is issued under this  
21 subsection to continue the period of  
22 issuance until a second national site in  
23 each State, the District of Columbia, and  
24 each territory referred to in this subsection

1 has been honored with a design on a quar-  
2 ter dollar.

3 “(ii) NOTICE AND REPORT.—Within  
4 30 days after making a determination  
5 under clause (i), the Secretary shall submit  
6 a written report on such determination to  
7 the Committee on Financial Services of the  
8 House of Representatives and the Com-  
9 mittee on Banking, Housing, and Urban  
10 Affairs of the Senate.

11 “(iii) APPLICABILITY OF PROVI-  
12 SIONS.—If the Secretary makes a deter-  
13 mination under clause (i), the provisions of  
14 this subsection applicable to site and de-  
15 sign selection and approval, the order, tim-  
16 ing, and conditions of issuance shall apply  
17 in like manner as the initial issuance of  
18 quarter dollars under this subsection, ex-  
19 cept that the issuance of quarter dollars  
20 pursuant to such determination bearing  
21 the first design shall commence in order  
22 immediately following the last issuance of  
23 quarter dollars under the first round.

24 “(iv) CONTINUATION UNTIL ALL  
25 STATES ARE HONORED.—If the Secretary

1 makes a determination under clause (i),  
2 the program under this subsection shall  
3 continue until a second site in each State  
4 has been so honored.

5 “(8) DESIGNS AFTER END OF PROGRAM.—  
6 Upon the completion of the coin program under this  
7 subsection, the design—

8 “(A) on the obverse of the quarter dollar  
9 shall revert to the same design containing an  
10 image of President Washington in effect for the  
11 quarter dollar before the institution of the 50-  
12 State quarter dollar program;

13 “(B) notwithstanding the fourth sentence  
14 of subsection (d)(1), on the reverse of the quar-  
15 ter dollar shall contain an image of General  
16 Washington crossing the Delaware River prior  
17 to the Battle of Trenton; and

18 “(C) described in paragraph (1)(B) shall  
19 apply with regard to the placement of inscrip-  
20 tions.

21 “(9) NATIONAL SITE.—For purposes of this  
22 subsection, the term ‘national site’ means any site  
23 under the supervision, management, or conservancy  
24 of the National Park Service, the United States For-  
25 est Service, the United States Fish and Wildlife

1 Service, or any similar department or agency of the  
2 Federal Government, including any national park,  
3 national monument, national battlefield, national  
4 military park, national historical park, national his-  
5 toric site, national lakeshore, seashore, recreation  
6 area, parkway, scenic river, or trail and any site in  
7 the National Wildlife Refuge System.

8 “(10) APPLICATION IN EVENT OF INDEPEND-  
9 ENCE.—If any territory becomes independent or oth-  
10 erwise ceases to be a territory or possession of the  
11 United States before quarter dollars bearing designs  
12 which are emblematic of such territory are minted  
13 pursuant to this subsection, this subsection shall  
14 cease to apply with respect to such territory.”.

## 15 **TITLE II—BULLION INVESTMENT** 16 **PRODUCTS**

### 17 **SEC. 201. SILVER BULLION COIN.**

18 Section 5112 of title 31, United States Code, is  
19 amended by inserting after subsection (t) (as added by  
20 section 101 of this Act) the following:

21 “(u) SILVER BULLION INVESTMENT PRODUCT.—

22 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall strike  
23 and make available for sale such number of bullion  
24 coins as the Secretary determines to be appropriate

1 that bear the likeness of the quarter dollars issued  
2 under subsection (t), each of which shall—

3 “(A) have a diameter of 3.0 inches and  
4 weigh 8.0 ounces;

5 “(B) contain .999 fine silver;

6 “(C) bear the inscriptions of the fineness  
7 and weight of the bullion coin;

8 “(D) bear an inscription of the denomina-  
9 tion of such coin, which shall be ‘quarter dol-  
10 lar’; and

11 “(E) not be minted or issued by the  
12 United States Mint as so-called ‘fractional’ bul-  
13 lion coins or in any size other than the size de-  
14 scribed in paragraph (A).

15 “(2) AVAILABILITY FOR SALE.—Bullion coins  
16 minted under paragraph (1)—

17 “(A) shall become available for sale no  
18 sooner than the first day of the calendar year  
19 in which the circulating quarter dollar of which  
20 such bullion coin is a duplicate is issued; and

21 “(B) may only be available for sale during  
22 the year in which such circulating quarter dol-  
23 lar is issued.

24 “(3) DISTRIBUTION.—

1           “(A) IN GENERAL.—In addition to the au-  
2           thorized dealers utilized by the Secretary in dis-  
3           tributing bullion coins and solely for purposes  
4           of distributing bullion coins issued under this  
5           subsection, the Director of the National Park  
6           Service, or the designee of the Director, may  
7           purchase numismatic items issued under this  
8           subsection, but only in units of no fewer than  
9           1,000 at a time, and the Director, or the Direc-  
10          tor’s designee, may resell or repackage such nu-  
11          ismatic items as the Director determines to be  
12          appropriate.

13           “(B) RESALE.—The Director of the Na-  
14          tional Park Service, or the designee of the Di-  
15          rector, may resell, at cost and without repack-  
16          aging, numismatic items acquired by the Direc-  
17          tor or such designee under subparagraph (A) to  
18          any party affiliated with any national site hon-  
19          ored by a quarter dollar under subsection (t)  
20          for repackaging and resale by such party in the  
21          same manner and to the same extent as such  
22          party would be authorized to engage in such ac-  
23          tivities under subparagraph (A) if the party  
24          were acting as the designee of the Director  
25          under such subparagraph.”.

1       **TITLE III—ADMINISTRATION**

2       **SEC. 301. NO NET COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.**

3           The Secretary of the Treasury shall take such actions  
4 as are necessary to ensure that minting and issuing coins  
5 under this Act and the amendments made by this Act will  
6 not result in any net cost to the Federal Government.

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