

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1624

To provide for the economical production of various United States coins.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 23, 2011

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

A BILL

To provide for the economical production of various United States coins.

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 “Currency Efficiency
5 Act of 2011”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

8 (1) the United States simultaneously produces
9 several versions of the \$1 coins, in addition to the
10 \$1 banknote;

1 (2) such duplication does not render a benefit
2 to the Nation;

3 (3) 75 percent of Presidential \$1 coin payments
4 are deposits to banks;

5 (4) banks have redeposited more than 40 per-
6 cent of issued Presidential \$1 coins to the Federal
7 Reserve banks;

8 (5) the Federal Reserve banks now store over
9 \$1,000,000,000 in excess \$1 coins;

10 (6) the Board of Governors of the Federal Re-
11 serve System does not believe that demand for \$1
12 coins will improve;

13 (7) several original supporters of the Presi-
14 dential \$1 coin program now express concerns about
15 its results;

16 (8) the American people have demonstrated by
17 their actions a preference for paper currency over
18 coinage in the \$1 denomination;

19 (9) the United States faces a fiscal crisis, where
20 expending funds to produce, store, and guard un-
21 wanted currency is indefensible;

22 (10) it is appropriate to provide for the reform
23 and economical continuance of the production of \$1
24 coins by the Federal Government.

1 **SEC. 3. SUSPENSION OF \$1 PRESIDENTIAL COIN PROGRAM**
2 **DURING SURPLUS.**

3 Section 5112(n)(8) of title 31, United States Code,
4 is amended by adding on the end the following: “The Sec-
5 retary shall suspend issuance of coins under this sub-
6 section during any period for which the Secretary deter-
7 mines that the surplus supply of \$1 coins exceeds the rea-
8 sonable circulation needs for one year.”.

9 **SEC. 4. RESTRICTION ON OVERPRODUCTION OF \$1 COINS.**

10 Section 5112 of title 31, United States Code, is
11 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
12 section:

13 “(w) RESTRICTION ON OVERPRODUCTION OF \$1
14 COINS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this sec-
15 tion, no \$1 coin may be minted or issued under this sec-
16 tion during any period in which the number of \$1 coins
17 issued, but not in circulation, is more than 10 percent of
18 the number of \$1 coins in circulation.”.

19 **SEC. 5. PRESIDENTIAL SPOUSE COINS NOT AFFECTED.**

20 Section 5112(o)(5)(C) of title 31, United States
21 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following: “The
22 suspension or termination of the presidential coin program
23 under subsection (n)(8) shall not affect the minting or
24 issuance of coins under this subsection in chronological
25 order according to the service of each such President.”.

1 **SEC. 6. REMOVAL OF UNMIXED SUPPLIES REQUIREMENT.**

2 Section 5112(p)(3)(D) of title 31, United States
3 Code, is amended by striking “ensuring that” and all that
4 follows through “(ii) circulating coins” and inserting the
5 following: “ensuring that circulating coins”.

6 **SEC. 7. RESOLUTION OF COIN SURPLUSES AT FEDERAL RE-**
7 **SERVE BANKS.**

8 The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve Sys-
9 tem shall determine an inventory level of \$1 coins required
10 among their member banks to meet reasonable circulation
11 needs. The Board shall, after such determination, adjust
12 its inventories of \$1 coins to that level through methods
13 which minimize the need for further storage expenditures.
14 Surpluses of \$1 coins which can be most efficiently elimi-
15 nated through destruction shall be deemed to consist of
16 “obsolete and worn coins withdrawn from circulation”
17 under section 5120(a) of title 31, United States Code.

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