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To award a Congressional Gold Medal to Dr. Balazs “Ernie” Bodai in recognition of his many outstanding contributions to the Nation, including a tireless commitment to breast cancer research.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 21, 2015

Ms. SPEIER (for herself, Mr. BARTON, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. BURGESS, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. COHEN, Mrs. COMSTOCK, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. DOLD, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. FARR, Mr. HANNA, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. MOORE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. YODER, Ms. LEE, Mr. HONDA, and Mrs. BUSTOS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To award a Congressional Gold Medal to Dr. Balazs “Ernie” Bodai in recognition of his many outstanding contributions to the Nation, including a tireless commitment to breast cancer research.

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 The Congress finds as follows:

1 (1) Dr. Balazs “Ernie” Bodai was born in Bu-
2 dapest, Hungary, in 1951.

3 (2) As a child, Dr. Bodai and his family lived
4 in a bomb shelter for over a year during the Hun-
5 garian Revolution of 1956 before managing to es-
6 cape and immigrate to the United States.

7 (3) Dr. Bodai received his B.A. and M.S. de-
8 grees from the University of California, Los Angeles,
9 and subsequently received his M.D. degree from the
10 University of California, Davis, at the young age of
11 26.

12 (4) Dr. Bodai has authored over 250 medical
13 articles and published 5 books, 4 of which focus on
14 cancer.

15 (5) After working as a breast cancer surgeon
16 for over 30 years and treating more than 15,000 pa-
17 tients, Dr. Bodai remains frustrated with the pace
18 of breast cancer research funding.

19 (6) In 1996, Dr. Bodai launched a campaign to
20 create a postal stamp to benefit breast cancer re-
21 search.

22 (7) After several trips to Washington, DC, and
23 countless visits with United States Senators and
24 Members of Congress, the Stamp Out Breast Cancer
25 Act, which allowed a breast cancer stamp to be sold

1 at up to 8 cents above the normal first-class rate,
2 was passed and signed into law in August 1997.

3 (8) As a direct result of Dr. Bodai's tireless
4 commitment to breast cancer research, as of Feb-
5 ruary 2015, more than 985,000,000 breast cancer
6 stamps have been sold in the United States—pro-
7 viding over \$80,000,000 for crucial, life-saving re-
8 search.

9 (9) The Breast Cancer Research Stamp re-
10 cently surpassed the Elvis Presley Stamp to become
11 the all-time best seller for the United States Postal
12 Service.

13 (10) In an effort to expand breast cancer re-
14 search internationally, in 2005, Dr. Bodai intro-
15 duced the first ever “global stamp” to raise aware-
16 ness and funding to conquer the disease worldwide.

17 (11) As of 2014, as a direct result of Dr.
18 Bodai's tireless commitment, over 70 countries have
19 either created their own stamp or are in the process
20 of doing so—making breast cancer research, early
21 detection, and eradication a global health priority.

22 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.**

23 (a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of
24 the House of Representatives and the President pro tem-
25 pore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements

1 for the presentation, on behalf of the Congress, of a gold
2 medal of appropriate design, to Dr. Balazs “Ernie” Bodai
3 in recognition of his many outstanding contributions to
4 the Nation, including a tireless commitment to breast can-
5 cer research.

6 (b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For purposes of the
7 presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary
8 of the Treasury (referred to in this Act 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 The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in
14 bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to section 2
15 under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, 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 OF MEDALS.**

20 (a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medals struck pursu-
21 ant to this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter
22 51 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 under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic
- 2 items.

