

Public Law 105-215
105th Congress

An Act

To present a congressional gold medal to Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela.

July 29, 1998
[H.R. 3156]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) Nelson Mandela has dedicated his entire life to the abolition of apartheid and the creation of a true democracy in the Republic of South Africa and has sacrificed his own personal freedom for the good of everyone.

(2) For nearly 30 years as a political prisoner, Nelson Mandela never compromised his political principles, was a source of strength and education for other political prisoners, and refused offers of freedom in exchange for a renunciation of his personal and political beliefs.

(3) After his release from prison, Nelson Mandela continued to pursue his goal of a free South Africa, and was elected and subsequently inaugurated as State President of the Republic of South Africa on May 10, 1994, at the age of 75 years.

(4) Nelson Mandela's dedication to freedom did not cease once the apartheid laws were lifted, as he then focused his efforts toward reconciliation by creating the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, chaired by the Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

(5) Nelson Mandela is the recipient of many awards and accolades, including the Nobel Peace Prize (which he accepted with then-State President F.W. de Klerk in 1993), and more than 50 honorary degrees from universities around the world.

(6) Millions of individuals of all races and backgrounds in the United States and around the world followed Nelson Mandela's example and fought for the abolition of apartheid in the Republic of South Africa and in this regard the Congress recognizes Amy Elizabeth Biehl, an American student who lost her life in the struggle to free South Africa from racial oppression, and the spirit of forgiveness and reconciliation displayed by her parents, Peter and Linda Biehl.

(7) Nelson Mandela is a prime example of how to work to heal the wounds of racism.

31 USC 5111
note.

Desmond Tutu.

Amy Elizabeth
Biehl.
Peter Biehl.
Linda Biehl.

SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The President is authorized to present, on behalf of the Congress, a gold medal of appropriate design to Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela in recognition of his life-

31 USC 5111
note.

long dedication to the abolition of apartheid and the promotion of reconciliation among the people of the Republic of South Africa.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purpose of the presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”) shall strike a gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

31 USC 5111
note.

SEC. 3. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

Under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, the Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck under section 2 at a price sufficient to cover the costs of the medals, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.

31 USC 5111
note.

SEC. 4. NATIONAL MEDALS.

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

31 USC 5111
note.

SEC. 5. FUNDING AND PROCEEDS OF SALE.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—There is hereby authorized to be charged against the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund an amount not to exceed \$30,000 to pay for the cost of the medals authorized by this Act.

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

Approved July 29, 1998.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 3156:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 144 (1998):
June 16, considered and passed House.
July 14, considered and passed Senate.

