

PUBLIC LAW 105-268—OCT. 19, 1998

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS BICENTENNIAL  
COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT OF 1998

Public Law 105-268  
105th Congress

An Act

Oct. 19, 1998

[H. R. 3790]

Library of  
Congress  
Bicentennial  
Commemorative  
Coin Act of 1998.  
31 USC 5112  
note.

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the bicentennial of the Library of Congress.

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

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Library of Congress Bicentennial Commemorative Coin Act of 1998”.

**SEC. 2. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.**

(a) **DENOMINATIONS.**—The Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”) shall mint and issue the following coins:

(1) **\$5 GOLD COINS.**—Not more than 100,000 \$5 coins, which shall—

- (A) weigh 8.359 grams;
- (B) have a diameter of 0.850 inches; and
- (C) contain 90 percent gold and 10 percent alloy.

(2) **\$1 SILVER COINS.**—Not more than 500,000 \$1 coins, which shall—

- (A) weigh 26.73 grams;
- (B) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and
- (C) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

(b) **BIMETALLIC COINS.**—The Secretary may mint and issue not more than 200,000 \$10 bimetallic coins of gold and platinum instead of the gold coins required under subsection (a)(1) in accordance with such specifications as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(c) **LEGAL TENDER.**—The coins minted under this Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

**SEC. 3. SOURCES OF BULLION.**

(a) **PLATINUM AND GOLD.**—The Secretary shall obtain platinum and gold for minting coins under this Act from available sources.

(b) **SILVER.**—The Secretary may obtain silver for minting coins under this Act from stockpiles established under the Strategic and Critical Materials Stock Piling Act and from other available sources.

**SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.**

(a) **DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The design of the coins minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the Library of Congress.

(2) **DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.**—On each coin minted under this Act there shall be—

- (A) a designation of the value of the coin;
- (B) an inscription of the year “2000”; and
- (C) inscriptions of the words “Liberty”, “In God We Trust”, “United States of America”, and “E Pluribus Unum”.

(b) SELECTION.—The design for the coins minted under this Act shall be—

- (1) selected by the Secretary after consultation with the Library of Congress and the Commission of Fine Arts; and
- (2) reviewed by the Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee.

**SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.**

- (a) QUALITY OF COINS.—Coins minted under this Act shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.
- (b) MINT FACILITY.—Only one facility of the United States Mint may be used to strike any particular combination of denomination and quality of the coins minted under this Act.
- (c) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may issue coins minted under this Act only during the period beginning on January 1, 2000, and ending on December 31, 2000.
- (d) PROMOTION CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall—
  - (1) consult with the Library of Congress in order to establish a role for the Library of Congress in the promotion, advertising, and marketing of the coins minted under this Act; and
  - (2) if the Secretary determines that such action would be beneficial to the sale of coins minted under this Act, enter into a contract with the Library of Congress to carry out the role established under paragraph (1).

**SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.**

- (a) SALE PRICE.—The coins issued under this Act shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum of—
  - (1) the face value of the coins;
  - (2) the surcharge provided in subsection (d) with respect to such coins; and
  - (3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).
- (b) BULK SALES.—The Secretary shall make bulk sales of the coins issued under this Act at a reasonable discount.
- (c) PREPAID ORDERS.—
  - (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall accept prepaid orders for the coins minted under this Act before the issuance of such coins.
  - (2) DISCOUNT.—Sale prices with respect to prepaid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a reasonable discount.
- (d) SURCHARGES.—All sales shall include a surcharge established by the Secretary, in an amount equal to not more than—
  - (1) \$50 per coin for the \$10 coin or \$35 per coin for the \$5 coin; and
  - (2) \$5 per coin for the \$1 coin.

**SEC. 7. DISTRIBUTION OF SURCHARGES.**

All surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall be paid by the Secretary to the Library of Congress Trust Fund Board in accordance with section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code (as added by section 529(b)(2) of the Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government Appropriations Act, 1997), to be used for the purpose of supporting bicentennial programs, educational outreach activities (including schools and libraries), and other activities of the Library of Congress.

Approved October 19, 1998.

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**LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 3790:**

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 144 (1998):  
Aug. 4, considered and passed House.  
Oct. 6, considered and passed Senate.

