

Public Law 108-290  
108th Congress

An Act

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of Chief Justice John Marshall.

Aug. 6, 2004  
[H.R. 2768]

*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 “John Marshall Commemorative Coin Act”.

John Marshall  
Commemorative  
Coin Act.  
31 USC 5112  
note.

**SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

The Congress hereby finds as follows:

(1) John Marshall served as the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court from 1801 to 1835, the longest tenure of any Chief Justice in the Nation’s history.

(2) John Marshall authored more than 500 opinions, including virtually all of the most important cases decided by the Supreme Court during his tenure.

(3) Under his leadership, the Supreme Court of the United States gave shape to the fundamental principles of the Constitution, most notably the principle of judicial review.

(4) John Marshall’s service to the United States—not only as a Chief Justice, but also as a soldier in the Revolutionary War, as a Member of Congress, and as Secretary of State—truly makes him one of the most important figures in our Nation’s history.

**SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.**

(a) **DENOMINATION.**—In commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the birth of Chief Justice John Marshall, the Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”) shall mint and issue not more than 400,000 \$1 coins, each of which shall—

- (1) weigh 26.73 grams;
- (2) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and
- (3) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

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

(c) **NUMISMATIC ITEMS.**—For purposes of sections 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

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

(a) **DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.**—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins minted under this Act shall be emblematic of Chief Justice John Marshall and his immeasurable contributions to the Constitution of the United States and the Supreme Court of the United States.

(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 “2005”; 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 Commission of Fine Arts, and the Supreme Court Historical Society; and

(2) reviewed by the Citizens 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 1 facility of the United States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality of the coins minted under this Act.

(c) COMMENCEMENT OF ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may issue coins minted under this Act beginning January 1, 2005.

(d) TERMINATION OF MINTING AUTHORITY.—No coins may be minted under this Act after December 31, 2005.

#### 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 section 7(a) 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) MARKETING.—The Secretary, in cooperation with the Legacy Fund of the Library of Congress, shall develop and implement a marketing program to promote and sell the coins issued under this Act both within the United States and internationally.

#### SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—All sales of coins minted under this Act shall include a surcharge of \$10 per coin.

(b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code, all surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall be promptly paid by

the Secretary to the Supreme Court Historical Society for the purposes of—

- (1) supporting historical research and educational programs about the Supreme Court and the Constitution of the United States and related topics;
- (2) supporting fellowship programs, internships, and docents at the Supreme Court; and
- (3) collecting and preserving antiques, artifacts, and other historical items related to the Supreme Court and the Constitution of the United States and related topics.

(c) AUDITS.—The Supreme Court Historical Society shall be subject to the audit requirements of section 5134(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code, with regard to the amounts received by the Society under subsection (b).

(d) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), no surcharge may be included with respect to the issuance under this Act of any coin during a calendar year if, as of the time of such issuance, the issuance of such coin would result in the number of commemorative coin programs issued during such year to exceed the annual 2 commemorative coin program issuance limitation under section 5112(m)(1) of title 31, United States Code (as in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act). The Secretary of the Treasury may issue guidance to carry out this subsection.

Approved August 6, 2004.

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LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 2768:

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 108-473, Pt. 1 (Comm. on Financial Services) and Pt. 2 (Comm. on Ways and Means).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD,

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July 14, considered and passed House.

July 20, considered and passed Senate.

