

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1933

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the bicentennial of the Old State House of Connecticut.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 27, 1995

Mrs. KENNELLY (for herself, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. GEJDENSON, Mr. SHAYS, Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, and Mr. FRANKS of Connecticut) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services

A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the bicentennial of the Old State House of Connecticut.

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; FINDINGS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Connecticut Old State House Bicentennial Commemora-
6 tive Coin Act”.

7 (b) FINDINGS.—The Congress hereby finds the fol-
8 lowing:

1 (1) The history of the Old State House in
2 Hartford, Connecticut, is intrinsically linked to the
3 history of the city of Hartford, the State of Con-
4 necticut, and the United States.

5 (2) The site of the Old State House is where
6 the Colony of Connecticut was founded and where
7 General George Washington first met Comte de Ro-
8 chambeau in America to begin plotting the Yorktown
9 strategy to win the Revolutionary War.

10 (3) The Old State House, designed by Charles
11 Bulfinch, is a prime example of 18th century archi-
12 tecture and was designated a Registered National
13 Landmark by the Secretary of the Interior.

14 (4) Since 1979, the Old State House Associa-
15 tion has operated the Old State House as a museum,
16 public meeting house, and focal point for downtown
17 Hartford.

18 (5) The Old State House Association initiated
19 an extensive renovation in 1992 to revitalize the
20 building and its surroundings and to expand its edu-
21 cational, recreational, and cultural services.

22 (6) The new Old State House will feature a
23 Museum of Connecticut History, a market on Main
24 Street on the building's west side, and a Peace Park
25 on its east side.

1 (7) The new Old State House will be rededi-
2 cated on its 200th birthday in May 1996, when it
3 will once again become a focal point and meeting
4 place for Hartford, Connecticut, and the entire New
5 England region.

6 **SEC. 2. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.**

7 (a) \$1 SILVER COINS.—In commemoration of the bi-
8 centennial of the Old State House in Hartford, Connecti-
9 cut, the Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act
10 referred to as the “Secretary”) shall mint and issue not
11 more than 700,000 1 dollar coins, which shall—

12 (1) weigh 26.73 grams;

13 (2) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

14 (3) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent
15 copper.

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

19 (c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section
20 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted
21 under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

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

23 The Secretary shall obtain silver for minting coins
24 under this Act only from stockpiles established under the
25 Strategic and Critical Materials Stock Piling Act.

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

2 (a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins
4 minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the
5 Old State House and the role of the Old State
6 House in the history of the city of Hartford, the
7 State of Connecticut, and the United States.

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

10 (A) a designation of the value of the coin;

11 (B) an inscription of the years “1796–
12 1996”; and

13 (C) inscriptions of the words “Liberty”,
14 “In God We Trust”, “United States of Amer-
15 ica”, and “E Pluribus Unum”.

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

18 (1) selected by the Secretary after consultation
19 with the Old State House Association, the National
20 Trust for Historic Preservation, and the Commission
21 of Fine Arts; and

22 (2) reviewed by the Citizens Commemorative
23 Coin Advisory Committee.

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

25 (a) QUALITY OF COINS.—Coins minted under this
26 Act shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.

1 (b) MINT FACILITY.—Only 1 facility of the United
2 States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality
3 of the coins minted under this Act.

4 (c) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may
5 issue coins minted under this Act only during the period
6 beginning on January 1, 1996, and ending on December
7 31, 1996.

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

9 (a) SALE PRICE.—The coins issued under this Act
10 shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum
11 of—

12 (1) the face value of the coins;

13 (2) the surcharge provided in subsection (d)
14 with respect to such coins; and

15 (3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins
16 (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery,
17 overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

18 (b) BULK SALES.—The Secretary shall make bulk
19 sales of the coins issued under this Act at a reasonable
20 discount.

21 (c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall accept
23 prepaid orders for the coins minted under this Act
24 before the issuance of such coins.

1 (2) DISCOUNT.—Sale prices with respect to pre-
2 paid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a rea-
3 sonable discount.

4 (d) SURCHARGES.—All sales shall include a sur-
5 charge of \$10 per coin.

6 **SEC. 7. GENERAL WAIVER OF PROCUREMENT REGULA-**
7 **TIONS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection
9 (b), no provision of law governing procurement or public
10 contracts shall be applicable to the procurement of goods
11 and services necessary for carrying out the provisions of
12 this Act.

13 (b) EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY.—Sub-
14 section (a) shall not relieve any person entering into a con-
15 tract under the authority of this Act from complying with
16 any law relating to equal employment opportunity.

17 **SEC. 8. DISTRIBUTION OF SURCHARGES.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—All surcharges received by the
19 Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall
20 be promptly paid by the Secretary to the Old State House
21 Association for use in—

22 (1) the construction, renovation, and preserva-
23 tion involving the Old State House, including the
24 Museum of Connecticut History, the Main Street
25 Market, and the Peace Park;

1 (2) the education of the general public about
2 the central role of the Old State House in the his-
3 tory of Connecticut and the United States through
4 exhibits, programs, and other educational activities;
5 and

6 (3) the maintenance of the Old State House as
7 a central hub for recreational, cultural, and commer-
8 cial activities in the city of Hartford.

9 (b) AUDITS.—The Comptroller General of the United
10 States shall have the right to examine such books, records,
11 documents, and other data of the Old State House Asso-
12 ciation as may be related to the expenditures of amounts
13 paid under subsection (a).

14 **SEC. 9. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.**

15 (a) NO NET COST TO THE GOVERNMENT.—The Sec-
16 retary shall take such actions as may be necessary to en-
17 sure that minting and issuing coins under this Act will
18 not result in any net cost to the United States Govern-
19 ment.

20 (b) PAYMENT FOR COINS.—A coin shall not be issued
21 under this Act unless the Secretary has received—

22 (1) full payment for the coin;

23 (2) security satisfactory to the Secretary to in-
24 demnify the United States for full payment; or

1 (3) a guarantee of full payment satisfactory to
2 the Secretary from a depository institution whose
3 deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insur-
4 ance Corporation or the National Credit Union Ad-
5 ministration Board.

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