

105TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 3790

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

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 5, 1998

Mr. THOMAS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Banking and Financial Services

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## A BILL

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

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.**

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

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

7       (a) DENOMINATIONS.—The Secretary of the Treas-  
8       ury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”)  
9       shall mint and issue the following coins:

1           (1) \$5 GOLD COINS.—Not more than 100,000  
2 \$5 coins, which shall—

3           (A) weigh 8.359 grams;

4           (B) have a diameter of 0.850 inches; and

5           (C) contain 90 percent gold and 10 percent  
6 alloy.

7           (2) \$1 SILVER COINS.—Not more than 500,000  
8 \$1 coins, which shall—

9           (A) weigh 26.73 grams;

10          (B) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

11          (C) contain 90 percent silver and 10 per-  
12 cent copper.

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

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

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

22          (a) PLATINUM AND GOLD.—The Secretary shall ob-  
23 tain platinum and gold for minting coins under this Act  
24 from available sources.

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

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

6 (a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins  
8 minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the Li-  
9 brary of Congress.

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

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

13 (B) an inscription of the year “2000”; and

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

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

19 (1) selected by the Secretary after consultation  
20 with the Library of Congress and the Commission of  
21 Fine Arts; and

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

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

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

4 (b) **MINT FACILITY.**—Only 1 facility of the United  
5 States Mint may be used to strike any particular combina-  
6 tion of denomination and quality of the coins minted under  
7 this Act.

8 (c) **PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.**—The Secretary may  
9 issue coins minted under this Act only during the period  
10 beginning on January 1, 2000, and ending on December  
11 31, 2000.

12 (d) **PROMOTION CONSULTATION.**—The Secretary  
13 shall—

14 (1) consult with the Library of Congress in  
15 order to establish a role for the Library of Congress  
16 in the promotion, advertising, and marketing of the  
17 coins minted under this Act; and

18 (2) if the Secretary determines that such action  
19 would be beneficial to the sale of coins minted under  
20 this Act, enter into a contract with the Library of  
21 Congress to carry out the role established under  
22 paragraph (1).

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

24 (a) **SALE PRICE.**—The coins issued under this Act  
25 shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum  
26 of—

1 (1) the face value of the coins;

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

4 (3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins  
5 (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery,  
6 overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

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

10 (c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

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

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

17 (d) SURCHARGES.—All sales shall include a sur-  
18 charge established by the Secretary, in an amount equal  
19 to not more than—

20 (1) \$50 per coin for the \$10 coin or \$35 per  
21 coin for the \$5 coin; and

22 (2) \$5 per coin for the \$1 coin.

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

24 All surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale  
25 of coins issued under this Act shall be paid by the Sec-

1 retary to the Library of Congress Trust Fund Board in  
2 accordance with section 5134(f) of title 31, United States  
3 Code (as added by section 529(b)(2) of the Treasury,  
4 Postal Service, and General Government Appropriations  
5 Act, 1997), to be used for the purpose of supporting bicen-  
6 tennial programs, educational outreach activities (includ-  
7 ing schools and libraries), and other activities of the Li-  
8 brary of Congress.

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