

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 398

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of Native American history and culture.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 10, 1999

Mr. CAMPBELL introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs

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## A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of Native American history and culture.

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 “Buffalo Coin Act of  
5 1999”.

6 **SEC. 2. BUFFALO HALF-DOLLAR.**

7 Section 5112 of title 31, United States Code, is  
8 amended by adding at the end the following:

9 “(n) BUFFALO HALF-DOLLAR.—

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1           “(1) DENOMINATIONS.—Notwithstanding any  
2 other provision of law, during the 3-year period be-  
3 ginning on January 1, 2001, the Secretary shall  
4 mint and issue each year not more than 500,000  
5 half-dollar coins, minted in accordance with this  
6 title.

7           “(2) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—The design of  
8 the half-dollar coins minted under this subsection  
9 shall be based on the original 5-cent buffalo nickel  
10 designed by James Earle Fraser and minted from  
11 1913 to 1938. Each coin shall have on the obverse  
12 side a profile representation of a Native American,  
13 and on the reverse side a representation of a buffalo.

14           “(3) SELECTION.—The design for the coins  
15 minted under this subsection shall be—

16                   “(A) selected by the Secretary, after con-  
17 sultation with the Committee on Banking,  
18 Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate, the  
19 Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate, and  
20 the Commission of Fine Arts; and

21                   “(B) reviewed by the Citizens Commemo-  
22 rative Coin Advisory Committee.

23           “(4) QUALITY OF COINS.—Coins minted under  
24 this subsection shall be issued in uncirculated and  
25 proof qualities.

1           “(5) SOURCES OF BULLION.—The Secretary  
2 shall obtain silver for minting coins under this sub-  
3 section from sources that the Secretary deems ap-  
4 propriate, including from stockpiles established  
5 under the Strategic and Critical Materials Stock-  
6 piling Act.

7           “(6) MINT FACILITY.—Only 1 facility of the  
8 United States Mint may be used to strike any par-  
9 ticular quality of the coins minted under this sub-  
10 section.

11           “(7) SALE OF COINS.—

12           “(A) IN GENERAL.—The coins issued  
13 under this subsection shall be sold by the Sec-  
14 retary at a price equal to the sum of—

15                   “(i) the face value of the coins;

16                   “(ii) the surcharge provided in sub-  
17 paragraph (D) with respect to such coins;  
18 and

19                   “(iii) the cost of designing and issuing  
20 the coins (including labor, materials, dies,  
21 use of machinery, overhead expenses, mar-  
22 keting, and shipping).

23           “(B) BULK SALES.—The Secretary shall  
24 make bulk sales of the coins issued under this  
25 subsection at a reasonable discount.

1           “(C) PREPAID ORDERS.—The Secretary  
2 shall accept prepaid orders for the coins minted  
3 under this subsection before the issuance of  
4 such coins. Sale prices with respect to prepaid  
5 orders shall be at a reasonable discount.

6           “(D) SURCHARGES.—All sales of coins  
7 minted under this subsection shall include a  
8 surcharge of \$3.00 per coin.

9           “(8) DISTRIBUTION OF SURCHARGES.—

10           “(A) IN GENERAL.—All surcharges re-  
11 ceived by the Secretary from the sale of coins  
12 issued under this subsection shall be paid  
13 promptly by the Secretary to the Numismatic  
14 Public Enterprise Fund established under sec-  
15 tion 5134.

16           “(B) PROCEEDS.—Proceeds from the sale  
17 of coins minted under this subsection shall be  
18 made available to the National Museum of the  
19 American Indian for the purposes of—

20                   “(i) commemorating the tenth anni-  
21 versary of the establishment of the Mu-  
22 seum; and

1                   “(ii) supplementing the endowment  
2                   and educational outreach funds of the Mu-  
3                   seum.”.

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