

107TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1184

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration  
of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 22, 2001

Mr. LEACH (for himself, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma, Mr. LAFALCE, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. HILLIARD, Mr. FILNER, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. KLECZKA, Mr. CONDIT, Mr. FROST, Mr. WATT of North Carolina, Mr. McNULTY, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mrs. THURMAN, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. KUCINICH, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. BUYER, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. CLAY, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut, Mr. PASCRELL, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. DOOLEY of California, and Mr. BARRETT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

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## A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins  
in commemoration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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 “Dr. Martin Luther  
5 King, Jr., Commemorative Coin Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 The Congress hereby finds as follows:

3 (1) Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., dedicated his  
4 life to securing the Nation's fundamental principles  
5 of liberty and justice for all its citizens.

6 (2) Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was the lead-  
7 ing civil rights advocate of his time, spearheading  
8 the civil rights movement in the United States dur-  
9 ing the 1950's and 1960's.

10 (3) Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was the key-  
11 note speaker at the August, 28, 1963, March on  
12 Washington, the largest rally of the civil rights  
13 movement, during which, from the steps of the Lin-  
14 coln Memorial and before a crowd of over 200,000  
15 people, he delivered his famous "I Have A Dream"  
16 speech, one of the classic orations in American his-  
17 tory.

18 (4) Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was a cham-  
19 pion of nonviolence, fervently advocated nonviolent  
20 resistance as the strategy to end segregation and ra-  
21 cial discrimination in America, and was awarded the  
22 1964 Nobel Peace Prize in recognition for his ef-  
23 forts.

24 (5) All Americans should commemorate the leg-  
25 acy of Martin Luther King, Jr., so "that one day  
26 this Nation will rise up and live out the true mean-

1       ing of its creed: ‘We hold these truths to be self-evi-  
2       dent; that all men are created equal.’”.

3               (6) Efforts are underway to secure the personal  
4       papers of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., for the Li-  
5       brary of Congress so that they may be preserved and  
6       studied for generations to come.

7       **SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.**

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

11              (1) \$5 GOLD COINS.—Not more than 50,000 \$5  
12      coins, which shall—

13                      (A) weigh 8.359 grams;

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

15                      (C) contain 90 percent gold and 10 percent  
16      alloy.

17              (2) \$1 SILVER COINS.—Not more than 350,000  
18      \$1 coins, which shall—

19                      (A) weigh 26.73 grams;

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

21                      (C) contain 90 percent silver and 10 per-  
22      cent copper.

23              (3) HALF DOLLAR CLAD COINS.—Not more  
24      than 5,000,000 half dollar coins which shall—

25                      (A) weigh 11.34 grams;

1 (B) have a diameter of 1.205 inches; and  
2 (C) be minted to the specifications for half  
3 dollar coins contained in section 5112(b) of title  
4 31, United States Code.

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

8 (c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections  
9 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins  
10 minted under this Act shall be considered to be numis-  
11 matic items.

#### 12 **SEC. 4. SOURCES OF BULLION.**

13 (a) GOLD.—The Secretary shall obtain gold for mint-  
14 ing coins under this Act pursuant to the authority of the  
15 Secretary under other provisions of law.

16 (b) SILVER.—The Secretary shall obtain silver for  
17 minting coins under this Act from any available source,  
18 including from stockpiles established under the Strategic  
19 and Critical Materials Stock Piling Act.

#### 20 **SEC. 5. DESIGN OF COINS.**

21 (a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins  
23 minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the in-  
24 spirational life and works of Dr. Martin Luther  
25 King, Jr.

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

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

4           (B) an inscription of the year “2003”; and

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

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

10           (1) selected by the Secretary after consultation  
11 with the Commission of Fine Arts; and

12           (2) reviewed by the Citizens Commemorative  
13 Coin Advisory Committee.

14 **SEC. 6. ISSUANCE OF COINS.**

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

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

20           (c) COMMENCEMENT OF ISSUANCE.—The Secretary  
21 may issue coins minted under this Act beginning August  
22 28, 2003.

23           (d) TERMINATION OF MINTING AUTHORITY.—No  
24 coins may be minted under this Act after December 31,  
25 2003.

1 **SEC. 7. SALE OF COINS.**

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

5 (1) the face value of the coins;

6 (2) the surcharge provided in section 8(a) with  
7 respect to such coins; and

8 (3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins  
9 (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery,  
10 overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

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

14 (c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

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

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

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

1 **SEC. 8. SURCHARGES.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—All sales of coins minted under  
3 this Act shall include a surcharge as follows:

4 (1) A surcharge of \$35 per coin for the \$5 coin.

5 (2) A surcharge of \$10 per coin for the \$1 coin.

6 (3) A surcharge of \$3 per coin for the half dol-  
7 lar coin.

8 (b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of  
9 title 31, United States Code, all surcharges received by  
10 the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act  
11 shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the Dr. Martin  
12 Luther King, Jr., Legacy Fund of the Library of Congress  
13 to be used for the objects and purposes of such Fund.

14 (c) AUDITS.—The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Leg-  
15 acy Fund shall be subject to the audit requirements of  
16 section 5134(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code, with  
17 regard to the amounts received by the Fund under sub-  
18 section (b).

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