

107TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 2569

To award a congressional gold medal to Dr. Dorothy Height, in recognition of her many contributions to the Nation.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 23, 2002

Mrs. CLINTON (for herself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. KERRY, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. CLELAND, and Ms. STABENOW) 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 award a congressional gold medal to Dr. Dorothy Height, in recognition of her many contributions to the Nation.

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. FINDINGS.**

4       Congress makes the following findings:

5           (1) Dr. Dorothy Irene Height was born on  
6           March 24, 1912, to James Edward Height and  
7           Fannie (Borroughs) Height in Richmond, Virginia,  
8           and was raised in Rankin, Pennsylvania.

1                   (2) Dr. Height is recognized as one of the pre-  
2 eminent social and civil rights activists of her time,  
3 particularly in the struggle for equality, social jus-  
4 tice, and human rights for all peoples.

5                   (3) Beginning as a civil rights advocate in the  
6 1930s, she soon gained prominence through her tire-  
7 less efforts to promote interracial schooling, to reg-  
8 ister and educate voters, and to increase the visi-  
9 bility and status of women in our society.

10                  (4) Dr. Height has labored to provide hope for  
11 inner-city children and their families, and she can  
12 claim responsibility for many of the advances made  
13 by women and African Americans over the course of  
14 the last century.

15                  (5) Her public career spans over 65 years.

16                  (6) Dr. Height was a valued consultant on  
17 human and civil rights issues to First Lady Eleanor  
18 Roosevelt and she encouraged President Eisenhower  
19 to desegregate the Nation's schools and President  
20 Johnson to appoint African-American women to sub-  
21 Cabinet posts.

22                  (7) Dr. Height has been President of the Na-  
23 tional Council of Negro Women (NCNW) since  
24 1957, a position to which she was appointed upon  
25 the retirement of Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, one of

1       the most influential African-American women in  
2       United States history.

3           (8) The National Council of Negro Women is  
4       currently the umbrella organization for 250 local  
5       groups and 38 national groups engaged in economic  
6       development and women's issues.

7           (9) Under Dr. Height's leadership, the National  
8       Council of Negro Women implemented a number of  
9       new and innovative programs and initiatives,  
10      including—

11           (A) Operation Woman Power, a project to  
12       expand business ownership by women and to  
13       provide funds for vocational training;

14           (B) leadership training for African-American  
15       women in the rural South;

16           (C) the Black Family Reunion, a nation-  
17       wide annual gathering to encourage, renew, and  
18       celebrate the concept of not only the Black fam-  
19       ily, but of all families;

20           (D) the Women's Center for Education  
21       and Career Advancement, established to em-  
22       power minority women in nontraditional ca-  
23       reers; and

(E) the Bethune Museum and Archives, a museum devoted to the history of African-American women.

10                   (11) Dr. Height has been central in the success  
11       of 2 other influential women's organizations,  
12       specifically—

17 (B) her work with Young Women's Chris-  
18 tian Association (YWCA) led to its integration  
19 and more active participation in the civil rights  
20 movement.

1 King, Jr. and others made plans for the civil rights  
2 movement.

3 (13) Dr. Height is the recipient of many  
4 awards and accolades for her efforts on behalf of  
5 women's rights, including—

6 (A) the Spingarn Award, the highest honor  
7 bestowed by the National Association for the  
8 Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) for  
9 civil rights contributions;

10 (B) the Presidential Medal of Freedom,  
11 awarded by President Clinton;

12 (C) the John F. Kennedy Memorial Award,  
13 from the National Council of Jewish Women;

14 (D) the Ministerial Interfaith Association  
15 Award, for her contributions to interfaith, inter-  
16 racial, and ecumenical movements for over 30  
17 years;

18 (E) the Lovejoy Award, the highest rec-  
19 gnition by the Grand Lodge of the Benevolent  
20 and Protective Order of Elks of the World, for  
21 outstanding contributions to human relations;

22 (F) the Ladies Home Journal Woman of  
23 the Year Award, in recognition for her work for  
24 human rights;

5 (H) the Citizens Medal Award for distin-  
6 guished service, presented by President Reagan;  
7 and

(I) the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Freed-  
dom Medal, awarded by the Franklin and Elea-  
nor Roosevelt Institute.

11                   (14) Dr. Dorothy Height has established a last-  
12                   ing legacy of public service that has been an inval-  
13                   uable contribution to the progress of the Nation.

## 14 SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

15 (a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The President is  
16 authorized to present, on behalf of Congress, to Dr. Doro-  
17 thy Irene Height, a gold medal of appropriate design in  
18 recognition of her many contributions to the Nation.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For purpose of the presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”) shall strike a gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

**1 SEC. 3. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

2 Under such regulations as the Secretary may pre-  
3 scribe, the Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in  
4 bronze of the gold medal struck under section 2 at a price  
5 sufficient to cover the costs of the medals, including labor,  
6 materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses.

**7 SEC. 4. STATUS AS NATIONAL MEDALS.**

8 The medals struck under this Act are national medals  
9 for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

**10 SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

11 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
12 authorized to be charged against the United States Mint  
13 Public Enterprise Fund an amount not to exceed \$30,000  
14 to pay for the cost of the medal authorized under section  
15 2.

16 (b) PROCEEDS OF SALE.—Amounts received from the  
17 sale of duplicate bronze medals under section 3 shall be  
18 deposited in the United States Mint Public Enterprise  
19 Fund.

