

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1379

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of veterans who became disabled for life while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 9, 2003

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

A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of veterans who became disabled for life while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States.

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 “American Veterans
5 Disabled for Life Commemorative Coin Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

1 (1) the armed forces of the United States have
2 answered the call and served with distinction around
3 the world—from hitting the beaches in World War
4 II in the Pacific and Europe, to the cold and dif-
5 ficult terrain in Korea, the steamy jungles of Viet-
6 nam, and the desert sands of the Middle East;

7 (2) all Americans should commemorate those
8 who come home having survived the ordeal of war,
9 and solemnly honor those who made the ultimate
10 sacrifice in giving their lives for their country;

11 (3) all Americans should honor the millions of
12 living disabled veterans who carry the scars of war
13 every day, and who have made enormous personal
14 sacrifices defending the principles of our democracy;

15 (4) in 2000, Congress authorized the construc-
16 tion of the American Veterans Disabled for Life Me-
17 morial;

18 (5) the United States should pay tribute to the
19 Nation’s living disabled veterans by minting and
20 issuing a commemorative silver dollar coin; and

21 (6) the surcharge proceeds from the sale of a
22 commemorative coin would raise valuable funding
23 for the construction of the American Veterans Dis-
24 abled for Life Memorial.

1 **SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.**

2 (a) \$1 SILVER COINS.—The Secretary of the Treas-
3 ury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”)
4 shall mint and issue not more than 500,000 \$1 coins in
5 commemoration of disabled American veterans, each of
6 which shall—

7 (1) weigh 26.73 grams;

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

9 (3) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent
10 copper.

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

14 (c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section
15 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted
16 under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

17 **SEC. 4. SOURCES OF BULLION.**

18 The Secretary shall obtain silver for minting coins
19 under this Act only from stockpiles established under the
20 Strategic and Critical Materials Stock Piling Act.

21 **SEC. 5. DESIGN OF COINS.**

22 (a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins
24 minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the de-
25 sign selected by the Disabled Veterans’ LIFE Me-

1 memorial Foundation for the American Veterans Dis-
 2 abled for Life Memorial.

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

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

6 (B) an inscription of the year “2006”; and

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

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

12 (1) selected by the Secretary, after consultation
 13 with the Disabled Veterans’ LIFE Memorial Foun-
 14 dation and the Commission of Fine Arts; and

15 (2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory
 16 Committee.

17 **SEC. 6. ISSUANCE OF COINS.**

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

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

23 (c) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may
 24 issue coins under this Act only during the calendar year
 25 beginning on January 1, 2006.

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 subsection (d)
7 with 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) SURCHARGES.—All sales of coins issued under
12 this Act shall include a surcharge of \$10 per coin.

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

16 (d) PREPAID ORDERS.—

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

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

23 **SEC. 8. DISTRIBUTION OF SURCHARGES.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to section 5134(f) of title
25 31, United States Code, all surcharges received by the
26 Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall

1 be paid to the Disabled Veterans' LIFE Memorial Foun-
2 dation for the purpose of establishing an endowment to
3 support the construction of American Veterans' Disabled
4 for Life Memorial in Washington, D.C.

5 (b) AUDITS.—The Comptroller General of the United
6 States shall have the right to examine such books, records,
7 documents, and other data of the Disabled Veterans'
8 LIFE Memorial Foundation as may be related to the ex-
9 penditures of amounts paid under subsection (a).

10 **SEC. 9. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.**

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

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

18 (1) full payment for the coin;

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

21 (3) a guarantee of full payment satisfactory to
22 the Secretary from a depository institution whose
23 deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insur-

- 1 ance Corporation or the National Credit Union Ad-
- 2 ministration Board.

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