

109TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1639

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the founding of America’s National Parks, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 8, 2005

Mr. STEVENS (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. INOUE, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. THOMAS, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) 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 the founding of America’s National Parks, and for other purposes.

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 “National Park Anni-  
5       versaries-Great American Spaces Commemorative Coin  
6       Act”.

7       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

8       The Congress finds the following:

1           (1) The National Park Foundation is the con-  
2           gressionally-chartered nonprofit partner of America’s  
3           National Parks.

4           (2) The mission of the National Park Founda-  
5           tion is to strengthen the enduring connection be-  
6           tween the American people and their National Parks  
7           by raising private funds, making strategic grants,  
8           creating innovative partnerships, and increasing  
9           public awareness of National Parks.

10          (3) The parks represented in this program rep-  
11          resent some of the most beloved and treasured Na-  
12          tional Parks in America.

13          (4) The National Park Service was established  
14          in 1916, to preserve and protect great scenic parks  
15          such as Grand Canyon National Park and Yosemite  
16          National Park, and to manage battlefields such as  
17          Gettysburg National Military Park and historical  
18          sites such as the Lincoln Memorial.

19          (5) Theodore Roosevelt said that nothing short  
20          of defending this country in wartime “compares in  
21          importance with the great task of leaving this land  
22          even a better land for our descendants than it is for  
23          us”.

24          (6) National Parks established under the presi-  
25          dency of Theodore Roosevelt, such as Grand Canyon

1 National Park and Devils Tower National Monu-  
2 ment, are the embodiment of that ideal.

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

4 (a) \$1 SILVER COINS FOR NATIONAL PARKS OB-  
5 SERVING HISTORIC ANNIVERSARIES OF THEIR FOUND-  
6 ING.—The Secretary of the Treasury (in this Act referred  
7 to as the “Secretary”) shall mint and issue not more than  
8 300,000 \$1 coins for each of the National Parks specified  
9 in section 4(c), each of which shall—

- 10 (1) weigh 26.73 grams;  
11 (2) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and  
12 (3) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent  
13 copper.

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

17 (c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections  
18 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins  
19 minted under this Act shall be considered to be numis-  
20 matic items.

21 **SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.**

22 (a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

- 23 (1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins  
24 minted under this Act shall be developed in consulta-  
25 tion with the National Park Foundation, and shall

1 be emblematic of the National Park being com-  
 2 memorated on each coin.

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 in which the  
 7 coin is minted; and

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

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

13 (1) selected by the Secretary, after consultation  
 14 with the Commission of Fine Arts and the National  
 15 Park Foundation; and

16 (2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory  
 17 Committee established under section 5135 of title  
 18 31, United States Code.

19 (c) NATIONAL PARKS TO BE COMMEMORATED.—The  
 20 National Parks to be commemorated in accordance with  
 21 this Act, the year of commemoration, and the anniversary  
 22 to be observed are as follows:

Year of Issuance	National Park or Park Service	Anniversary
2007 .....	Devils Tower National Monument.	100th
2008 .....	Grand Canyon National Park.	100th
2010 .....	Glacier National Park ....	100th

Year of Issuance	National Park or Park Service	Anniversary
2011 .....	Lincoln Memorial .....	100th
2015 .....	Yosemite National Park	125th
2015 .....	Rocky Mountain National Park.	100th
2016 .....	National Park Service ....	100th
2017 .....	Denali National Park ....	100th
2018 .....	Acadia National Park ....	100th
2019 .....	Zion National Park .....	100th
2020 .....	Gettysburg National Military Park.	125th

**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 quality  
6 of the coins minted under this Act.

7 (c) COMMENCEMENT OF ISSUANCE.—The Secretary  
8 may issue coins minted under this Act beginning January  
9 1 of the year of issuance, as specified in section 4(c), ex-  
10 cept that the Secretary may initiate sales of such coins,  
11 without issuance, before such date.

12 (d) TERMINATION OF MINTING AUTHORITY.—No  
13 coins shall be minted under this Act after December 31  
14 of the year of issuance specified in section 4(c).

**15 SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.**

16 (a) SALE PRICE.—Notwithstanding any other provi-  
17 sion of law, the coins issued under this Act shall be sold  
18 by the Secretary at a price equal to the face value, plus  
19 the cost of designing and issuing such coins (including

1 labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead ex-  
 2 penses, and marketing).

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

6 (c) PREPAID ORDERS AT A DISCOUNT.—

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

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

13 (d) SALES OF SINGLE COINS AND SETS OF COINS.—  
 14 Coins of each design specified under section 4(c) may be  
 15 sold separately or as a set containing other coins author-  
 16 ized by this Act.

17 **SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.**

18 (a) SURCHARGE REQUIRED.—All sales of coins  
 19 issued under this Act shall include a surcharge of \$10 per  
 20 coin.

21 (b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of  
 22 title 31, United States Code, all surcharges received by  
 23 the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act  
 24 shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the National  
 25 Park Foundation for use as follows:

1           (1) 50 percent of the surcharges received shall  
 2       be used by the National Park Foundation in support  
 3       of all National Parks.

4           (2) 50 percent of the surcharges received shall  
 5       be used by the National Park Foundation for the  
 6       benefit of the National Parks designated in section  
 7       4(c) (in addition to any amount allocable to any  
 8       such Park from expenditures of amounts under  
 9       paragraph (1)).

10       (c) AUDITS.—The National Park Foundation shall be  
 11   subject to the audit requirements of section 5134(f)(2) of  
 12   title 31, United States Code, with regard to the amounts  
 13   received by the Foundation under subsection (b).

14   **SEC. 8. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.**

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

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

22           (1) full payment for the coin;

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

1           (3) a guarantee of full payment satisfactory to  
2       the Secretary from a depository institution, the de-  
3       posits of which are insured by the Federal Deposit  
4       Insurance Corporation or the National Credit Union  
5       Administration Board.

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