

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2894

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the bicentennial of the writing of the “Star Spangled Banner” and the War of 1812, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 28, 2007

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the bicentennial of the writing of the “Star Spangled Banner” and the War of 1812, 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 “Star-Spangled Banner
5 and War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemorative Coin Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds as follows:

1 (1) During the War of 1812, on September 13,
2 1814, Francis Scott Key visited the British fleet in
3 Chesapeake Bay to secure the release of Dr. William
4 Beanes, who had been captured after the burning of
5 Washington, DC.

6 (2) The release was completed, but Key was
7 held by the British overnight during the shelling of
8 Fort McHenry, one of the forts defending Baltimore.

9 (3) In the morning, Key peered through clear-
10 ing smoke to see an enormous American flag flying
11 proudly after a 25-hour British bombardment of
12 Fort McHenry.

13 (4) He was so delighted to see the flag still fly-
14 ing over the fort that he began a poem to commemo-
15 rate the occasion, with a note that it should be sung
16 to the popular British melody “To Anacreon in
17 Heaven”.

18 (5) In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson or-
19 dered that it be played at military and naval occa-
20 sions.

21 (6) In 1931, the “Star-Spangled Banner” be-
22 came our National Anthem.

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

24 (a) \$1 SILVER COINS.—The Secretary of the Treas-
25 ury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”)

1 shall mint and issue not more than 350,000 \$1 coins in
2 commemoration of the bicentennial of the writing of the
3 Star-Spangled Banner and the War of 1812, each of which
4 shall—

5 (1) weigh 26.73 grams;

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

7 (3) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent
8 copper.

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

12 (c) **NUMISMATIC ITEMS.**—For purposes of sections
13 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins
14 minted under this Act shall be considered to be numis-
15 matic items.

16 **SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.**

17 (a) **DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.**—

18 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—The design of the coins
19 minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the
20 War of 1812 and particularly the Battle for Fort
21 McHenry that formed the basis for the “Star-Span-
22 gled Banner”.

23 (2) **DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.**—On
24 each coin minted under this Act, there shall be—

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

1 (B) an inscription of the year “2012”; and

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

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

7 (1) selected by the Secretary, after consultation
8 with the Star-Spangled Banner and War of 1812 Bi-
9 centennial Commission and the Commission of Fine
10 Arts; and

11 (2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory
12 Committee.

13 **SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.**

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

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

19 (c) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may
20 issue coins under this Act only during the calendar year
21 beginning on January 1, 2012.

22 **SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.**

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

1 (1) the face value of the coins;

2 (2) the surcharge provided in section 7 with re-
3 spect to such coins; and

4 (3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins
5 (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery,
6 overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

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

10 (c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

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

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

17 **SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.**

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

20 (b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of
21 title 31, United States Code, all surcharges received by
22 the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act
23 shall be paid to the Star-Spangled Banner and War of
24 1812 Bicentennial Commission for the purpose of sup-
25 porting bicentennial activities (including providing coordi-

1 nation, advice, and assistance to Federal agencies, States,
2 localities, and other organizations for such activities), edu-
3 cational outreach activities (including supporting scholarly
4 research and the development of exhibits), and preserva-
5 tion and improvement activities relating to the sites and
6 structures relating to the War of 1812.

7 (c) AUDITS.—The Comptroller General of the United
8 States shall have the right to examine such books, records,
9 documents, and other data of the Star-Spangled Banner
10 and War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission as may be re-
11 lated to the expenditures of amounts paid under sub-
12 section (b).

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